

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Kiawah Island Municipal Center

Council Chambers

April 2, 2019; 2:00 PM

AGENDA

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

Present at the meeting: Craig Weaver, Mayor
Chris Widuch, Mayor Pro Tem
Maryanne Connelly, Councilmember
Dan Prickett, Councilmember

Absent: Klaus Said, Councilmember

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

Notice of the meeting was posted with the Media 24 hours in advance according to the Freedom of Information Act. All Town Council meetings are recorded for a complete transcript.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Approval of Minutes:

A. Minutes of the 2019 Council Strategic Planning Retreat of January 23, 2019

Mayor Pro Tem Widuch made a motion to approve the minutes as received. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Prickett and the minutes were unanimously approved.

B. Minutes of the 2019 Council Strategic Planning Retreat of January 24, 2019

Councilmember Connelly made a motion to approve the minutes as received. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Widuch and the minutes were unanimously approved.

C. Minutes of the Town Council Meeting of March 5, 2019

Councilmember Prickett made a motion to approve the minutes as received. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Widuch and the minutes were unanimously approved.

IV. Mayor's Update:

Mayor Weaver gave a summary on the Kiawah Island Utility rate adjustments filed with the Public Service Commission (PSC). He indicated that rate increases to both water and sewer would result in approximately 9.96% increase. He stated that the Town chose to file as an intervener in the case along with the St. Johns' Fire District (STJFD), which had a unique and specific issue concerning hydrant fees.

Mayor Weaver indicated that ORS (Office of Regulatory Staff) entered into a stipulation agreement with KIU with a rate of return of 14.25%, which was a compromise of the 14.5% requested by KIU, and the ORS recommended 14%, with the final ruling is still pending.

Mayor Weaver stated that the Town declined to join the stipulation agreement, however, as an intervener, went on the record supporting the majority of the ORS positions with the exception of the requested rate of return, along with hydrant fees paid by the STJFD to KIU be included in the rates paid by Kiawah residents. Mayor Weaver indicated that this would conclude the Town's involvement in the rate case without expending funds for additional counsel.

Mayor Weaver indicated at the Ways and Means Committee meeting which immediately preceded the Town Council meeting, the item under Section 8B - To Consider Approval of Beachwalker Drive Improvement was not approved, will not be considered by Council, and requested that it be removed from today's agenda.

Mayor Weaver made a motion to remove discussion of agenda item 8B, To Consider Approval of Beachwalker Drive Improvement, from today's agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Connelly and unanimously approved.

V. Citizens' Comments (Agenda Items Only):

Wendy Kulick – 38 Marsh Edge Lane

Ms. Kulick thanked the Mayor for the rate case information and inquired if the letter to the PSC was on their website.

Mayor Weaver indicated that it was.

Ms. Kulick stated that over the years Kiawah residents had numerous issues with unleashed dogs. She suggested that the beach proclamation being considered to include the need to adhere to the Town's leash laws and it may also strengthen the Town's position legally.

Ms. Kulick stated that the Charitable Contribution funding of worthy organizations on John's and Wadmalaw Islands is not something that the Town is required to do, is greatly appreciated, and asked that funding for those organizations that impact kid's education and food insecurity be approved.

Dennis McGill – 100 Pleasant Valley Drive

Mr. McGill calls attention to his previous FOIA request in which he asked for the names of the deserving employee or employees who received gift cards. He indicated that the Mayor provided him the requested information and that he hoped that the information, in the future, would not require an FOIA request.

VI. Presentation:

A. Kiawah Island Municipal Center Native Plant Demonstration Area Project

Mr. Jim Jordan, Town Biologist, gave a presentation on the idea to create a nature trail and demonstration garden at the Municipal Center. He gave background information on the need that created the program.

Mr. Jordan stated that in early 2018, The Town Environmental Committee formed a Landscape Working Group (all entities represented) to develop a plan to increase the use of native plants on Kiawah. The

Grow Native program was created and officially unveiled to the public in October 2018 as part of the Town's first Native Plant Week. He indicated the mission of the program would be a community-wide effort to increase the use of native plants in landscaping projects across the island with an overall goal of improving wildlife habitat

Mr. Jordan reviewed why native plants were important to the local environment along with conceptual photos. He also reviewed the estimated cost of each Phase along with maintenance and signage on the Trail.

Councilmembers discussed the phases of the proposed project expressing both agreements with the need and importance of this kind of the project along with the thought that the space at the Municipal Center would not attract a great number of people to showcase the native plants.

Mayor Weaver asked that Councilmembers review the presentation and provide Mr. Jordan feedback on any additional thoughts or questions on the proposed Nature Trail and Grow Native project. He also asked that Mr. Jordan, when ready, come back to Council with a proposal to move forward or a revision of the project.

VII. Old Business:
None

VIII. Consent:

- A. To Consider Approval of the Proposal from Mauldin & Jenkins as new Town Auditors

Councilmember Prickett made a motion to recommend to Town Council the engagement of Mauldin & Jenkins for the FY2019 audit with the option for annual renewal for the next three years. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Connelly and was unanimously passed.

IX. New Business:

- A. National Beach Safety Week Proclamation

Mayor Weaver read the proclamation in recognition of National Beach Safety Week and supporting the important work done by the members of the Town's Beach Patrol in trying to maintain a safe and active beach for residents and guests.

- B. To Consider Approval of the Charitable Grant Funding Amounts

Mayor Weaver stated that each of the Charitable Grant Funding requests was reviewed and discussed by the Ways and Means Committee, who recommend to Town Council, the funding amount being considered.

Mayor Weaver made a motion to approve a \$10,000.00 funding amount for the Sea Island Habitat for Humanity. The motion was seconded by Chairman Widuch. The motion was passed by a 3 to 0 vote. Councilmember Connelly recused herself from the vote.

Mr. Prickett made a motion to approve a \$7,000.00 funding amount for the Kiawah Island Women's Foundation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Connelly. The motion was passed by a 2 to 0 vote. Mayor Weaver and Mayor Pro Tem Widuch recused themselves from the vote.

Mayor Pro Tem Widuch made a motion to approve unassigned funding balance of \$9424.00 be allocated to the Kiawah Cares Foundation for and to approve the balance of the listed funding amounts. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Connelly and was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Prickett stated that the Arts Council, along with members of staff, are extremely busy this time of year developing a program for the next fiscal year. He indicated that the programs this year have been excellent, very well attended, and will be giving Council a more formal report next month.

Councilmember Connelly indicated she was pleased the computer lab will be receiving funding through Charitable Giving and thanked the staff for their work in vetting all the organizations and for their thoughtful recommendations.

Councilmember Connelly stated she is working with the Public Safety Committee regarding the regulation of drones on the beach.

XII. Citizens' Comments:

Wendy Kulick – 38 Marsh Edge Lane

Ms. Kulick asked if there was any update on the new signage for the Municipal Center.

Ms. Tillerson indicated that the signs had been refurbished and installed.

Holly Newman – Kiawah Cares

Ms. Newman thanked the Ways and Means Committee along with the Council for funding the Kiawah Cares.

Dennis McGill – 100 Pleasant Valley Drive

Mr. McGill noted the items listed under the Executive Session on today's agenda and question if asking for advice from the Town Attorney had to be in an Executive Session. He again suggested the Town Attorney should provide an update on all pending cases at the Town Council meetings.

Mr. Dwayne Green, Town Attorney, stated the defendants in this case originally filed a motion to dismiss, but the case is still pending. During the pending motion, Webster-Rogers did not answer the Town's outstanding discovery request, so a motion to compel was filed. He also indicated that Webster-Rogers had not served the Town with any discovery and depositions will follow.

Councilmember Prickett made a motion to move into Executive Session Pursuant to Section 30-4-70 (a)(2) to Receive Legal Advice regarding the Webster Rogers case and to Discuss a Personnel Matter. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Connelly and was unanimously passed.

XIII. Executive Session:

- A. Executive Session Pursuant to Section 30-4-70 (a) (2) to Receive Legal Advice regarding the Webster Rogers case**
- B. Executive Session Pursuant to Section 30-4-70 (a) (1) to Discuss a Personnel Matter**

Mayor Weaver stated that on both items, no votes were taken and no decisions were made during the Executive Session that would bind the Town to any course of action.

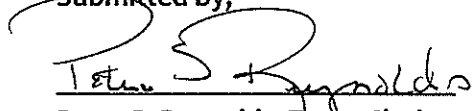
Mayor Pro Tem Widuch made a motion to move out of Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Connelly and was unanimously passed.

Mayor Pro Tem Widuch made a motion to return to Regular Session. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Prickett and was unanimously passed.

XIV. Adjournment:

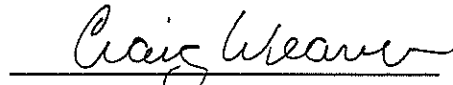
Councilmember Connelly motioned to adjourn the meeting at 2:55 pm. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Widuch and carried unanimously.

Submitted by,

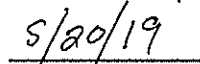


Petra S. Reynolds, Town Clerk

Approved by,



Craig E. Weaver, Mayor



Date