



City Council Meeting Summary for May 11, 2021

Work Session:

Finance Director Lee Gessner reviewed the City Investment Funds and Policy Ordinance. This ordinance will allow the Finance Director to invest City funds into low risk, bank managed investments.

City Administrator Aaron Pope reviewed the proposed moratorium on Short Term Rental business licenses. The 6 months pause on new licenses was requested by Staff to allow time for a review of short-term rental growth in the community and formulation of any needed new ordinances and policies.

Building/Facilities/Public Works Director Eric Lutz briefly reviewed an RFP for repairs to the Community Center parking lot after City Hall removes the temporary office trailer. The repair will swap out the current impervious parking for a new, pervious concrete or asphalt to improve stormwater runoff and drainage.

City Administrator Aaron Pope submitted changes to the upcoming RFP for a City Communication Strategy.

Mayor Goodwin reviewed proposals requiring lots hosting mobile food and drink vendors to provide appropriately screened restroom facilities. Ordinances to make this change will be submitted at a future Council meeting.

Mayor's Comments:

The Mayor recognized Lieutenant Colonel Pamela Barton for her service. Read more about her accomplishments and personal history here: <https://www.citadel.edu/root/cmdt-dept-bios/assistant-commandant-for-operations-and-training>

Staff Reports:

Building/Facilities/Public Works Director Eric Lutz presented a request by the City to connect a new lot to be donated to the City adjacent to Shadow Race Lane to connect to the existing sewer line. Connecting the lot to sewer will allow future public uses of the property and Shadow Race Park to include public restrooms facilities. Council approved this request.

Personal Appearances:

Darus Weathers, 77 Sandbar Lane; presented a request to connect two new lots adjacent to the future City property to the sewer. Each of the proposed new lots exceeds the current minimum lot size and is eligible for development with a single-family home. Allowing sewer connections will prevent additional septic tanks on critical line adjacent properties. Council approved this request.

Kelly Travers, Folly Association of Business; requested permission for FAB to host the Mermaids and Mateys special event on Saturday September 25th, 2021 from 7:00am to 6:30pm with a parade at 9:30am to 11:00am. Council approved the event with street closures on the condition that no parade was allowed.

Nicole Elko, Folly Beach Wahine Classic; requested to have the 19th Annual Wahine Classic by the Washout on Saturday July 31st, 2021 from 6:00am to 5:30pm with a second day on Sunday August 1st. This included allowing the group to purchase 100 parking passes for two days at the same rate as one day passes. Council approved this request.

Will Sneed, Charleston Golf Carts (110 E. Ashley Ave); requested that the City alter the approved West Ashley pedestrian path to create a 30' entrance to his property rather than the planned 15' entrance. Council voted to pursue this request with Mr. Sneed paying all associated costs for the redesign and submittal to the DOT. Final approval for the request will be based on DOT approval or disapproval.

Folly Association of Business Litter Committee; requested permission to add 8 inch by 8 inch signs to the existing Critter Litter signage at the beach walkovers. These new additions will feature the logos of the businesses who have agreed to sponsor the accesses and keep them clean. The City is excited to work with FAB on this new litter control initiative.

Committee Reports:

Environmental and Land Use Planner Katie Faith, presented an update from the Folly Beach Parking Committee. The Committee's first meetings resulted in a goal to "Establish a highly functional, safe and efficient parking management solution that ensures resident and guest satisfaction through amenities, utilizes technology, includes alternative transportation, and optimized parking lots and on street parking throughout the city in a cost-effective way." Specific strategies for each component are being developed and will be presented to Council.

Old Business:

Ordinance 08-21: This ordinance will apply the current substantial damage exemption that exists for non-conforming uses in the commercial districts to substantial improvements of those uses. (Passed Second Reading)

Ordinance 10-21: This ordinance raises the required freeboard in Folly Beach from 2' to 4' and will result in new homes being elevated higher than the new flood maps require to approximately the level of the old maps. (Passed Second Reading)

Ordinance 11-21: This ordinance pairs with the new freeboard to ensure that new structures are appropriately elevated. It changes the measurement of total height to be measured from the first floor rather than Base Flood Elevation. (Passed Second Reading)

Ordinance 14-21: This ordinance clarifies that proof of insurance must be presented in order to obtain a decal for golf cart. (Passed Second Reading)

New Business:

Emergency Ordinance 11-20 (EIGHTH AMENDMENT): The Emergency Ordinance was amended to allow the resumption of in person attendance at City meetings and to remove all mask requirements as ordered by the Governor. Mask requirements in the City are now up to individual businesses, there is no public mask requirement. The first City Council meeting open to the public will be in June.

Ordinance 15-21: An Ordinance Chapter to Amend 134 (Offenses Against Public Welfare) of the Folly Beach Code of Ordinances by Repealing Sections 134.100-134 (Face Coverings) Requiring That Face Coverings or Masks be Worn in Public in the City of Folly Beach for the Duration of the State of Emergency Issued by the State Of South Carolina. Although This ordinance did not move forward. The mask ordinance has been overruled by the Governor's orders and will be back up for repeal in June.

Ordinance 16-21: This ordinance will allow investment of certain City funds into low-risk investments. (passed First Reading)

Ordinance 17-21: This ordinance failed, and no moratorium will be implemented. However, the Mayor did appoint a committee of staff, Council, Planning Commission, and a rental representative to research and propose any needed changes to the rental ordinance.

Resolution 15-21: This resolution passed and will allow the removal of the Bowens Island Restaurant sign from the marsh and the relocation of the sign to City property on Bowens Island Road.

Resolution 16-21: This resolution passed and will extend the 2021 business license year until April 30th, 2022 in order to comply with the SC Business License Standardization Act.

Resolution 17-21: This resolution passed and will allow FAB to rollover previously awarded ATAX funds for fireworks.

To learn more about weekly updates from City Hall, go to <https://www.cityoffollybeach.com/about-folly/updates-from-city-hall/>