

Charleston City Council Regularly Scheduled Meeting

February 28, 2017

Observer: Carol Jackson

Agenda Items

(See Attached Council Agenda from which the Following Summaries are made):

Public Hearings:

E1&2. Council heard presentation by City Planning Staff re: Staff recommendation for Council to Amend the current Zoning Map and resulting Ordinance change to accommodate properties on Upper Meeting and Walnut Streets to be redeveloped from General Business to Mixed-Use/Workforce Housing Use as a new housing property will be owned and operated by One80 Place, aka Charleston Interfaith Crisis Assistance Ministry. The Ordinance Amendment proposed for the same sites to change the height restrictions was deferred until Council will vote later this Spring, on the overall Height changes, proposed by BAR for Old City Height District. One80 wants the height to be capped at 80 ft in the rear and 30 ft in the back, once construction is permitted.

E 3. Council sponsored a Public Hearing for citizens and property owners to speak their statements concerning the Planning Staff's recommendation to favorably grant new property owners' application to City for Annexation and Re-zoning of 2 small contiguous parcels, located on corner of Folly and Grimball Road on James Island. Properties are currently unincorporated and controlled by County overlay zoning for high density commercial on Folly Rd and lower density retail on Grimball. New Owner has committed to a single new structure to be used as a "non-franchise" restaurant with shops for local retailers, to be parked according to City's Code. Many neighborhood residents spoke against the Annexation/Rezoning, but they were not aware of the proposed use, which is actually in line with what they want to occupy that intersection—not multi-family Residential—now as promised by the new Owners, a local family. Council discussed pros and cons. Asked new Owner to meet with Neighborhood going forward. Council voted 100% in favor of Annexation and subsequent rezoning as a down zoning from County Zoning Map.

H. Public Petitions and Communications: Majority of speakers, encouraged/supported Council to undertake in all haste the "Flooding Study", the City will authorize to stormwater/flood zone specialists tasked with creating a Plan to improve and eliminate the regular flooding that currently is worsening in the Church Creek watershed in Outer West Ashley. Speakers were supportive of the building moratorium until the Study is completed and work to implement underway. Residents of Sherwood Forest were also in attendance and vocal about the flooding that is worsening in the W. Robinhood/King Arthur block in West Ashley.

J. Council Committee Reports:

1. The report from Recreation required Council action on the floor: Council voted 100% to rename Hall 2 Tract to “Coach Stanley Chisolm Park”, in honor of Mr. Chisolm whose widow was in attendance of the Meeting.
2. Public Works and Utilities Committee Chair moved in favor of a Council action to amend City Code to provide that as of April 1, 2017, electronic waste items shall NO LONGER be collected by the City. Alternative recycling locations, operated privately will be recommended to citizens.

L. Legislative: Bills up for First Reading

1. Council heard and discussed the Staff recommended Motion to amend the Accommodations Overlay Zone District in the Peninsula by removing @86 properties within the geographical District as Eligible for future Hotel Use. Most of these recommended properties are currently occupied by structures in use as churches, commercial office, residential homes, and public open space/parks. Council voted No on Motion to Defer this 1st Reading. They gave First Reading to the Amendment as proposed, with the understanding from the Mayor and Planning Director that there will be public hearings and discussions with impacted property owners who want their properties to have future hotel use options. Second Reading will be scheduled later in April to give public the opportunity to study and speak to Council and Staff.
2. Council voted 100% to institute a Temporary Moratorium, as a new part of the Zoning Code, Chapter 54, Article 9, Administration and Enforcement. The first use of the Moratorium will be within the Church Creek/Shadowmoss watershed area. The Map will be updated and made available to public.

M. Next Meeting: Next Meeting of Council will be March 14 at 5:00 PM at City Hall, 80 Broad Street