

Summerville Town Hall Meeting;

March 9, 2017

Observer: Jan Lewis

Actions Taken:

- Approval given to Council Committee Reports, zoning petitions, and pending bills and resolutions; new bills and resolutions (all of these are available on the Summerville Town web site)
- Approved two new members to the Bicycles and Pedestrian Committee
- Authorized funding for the architectural design of the National Guard Armory

Legislative Update:

- SC Business License Tax Standardization Act H650: discussion centered on the adverse impact on small business; council is opposed and urged citizens to state their opposition

Mayor's Remarks

- Request for council to hire a full-time clerk;
- Discussed a two day strategic planning session for mayor and council
- Called for civility between council members and to the public when offering comments

Public Comment:

- Subdivision representative with concerns about business development adjacent to subdivision;
- Representative of HUD Community Development Block Plan requesting council to make sure there is a youth job program for the summer;
- Description of pedestrian safety concerns for Hutchison Square;
- Complaint about city policy that families must pay for police escort for funeral processions;
- Exception to a letter to the editor about mayor's initiatives and council response; concern about Mayor's response to a youth delegation for Woman's Day;

- Request for a homeless grant for the Community Resource Center;
- Concern that One 80 Place does not provide shelter for women

Observation:

Appears there have been uncontrolled, contentious meetings in the past; Mayor Johnson opened the meeting stating they need to increase civility in the public comments portion of the meeting and during council discussions; said he would enforce the Roberts Rules of Order