

Charleston City Council Meeting

May 9, 2017

Observers: Sandy Hojnacki and Doris Lackey

The big topic of the meeting was the proposed ordinance to establish a six-month moratorium on high-density apartment building on James Island. Nearly all of the 40 plus speakers signed up for public comment from James Island used the public comment time to support the moratorium. Many of them called for a moratorium of more than six months in order to give the planners time for a comprehensive planning document that would include appropriate infrastructure development with any high density housing expansion. Speakers cited the need to address transportation, education, and flood control issues in particular.

Community speakers also cited the fact that there are four jurisdictions representing various parts of James Island and that there was a need for the entities to get together and develop a more coordinated approach. Mayor Tecklenburg indicated that such a meeting was scheduled for the following week.

The Council voted unanimously in favor of the six-month moratorium and several of the Council members cited the need for comprehensive planning and reserved the right to extend the time limit if needed.