

## **ACCOMMODATIONS TAX ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

11:00 a.m., Wednesday, January 9, 2008

The regular meeting of the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee was held at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 9, 2008 in City Council Chambers, 1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, South Carolina. Present were Malcolm Burgis, Vicki Hollingsworth, Rick Linville, David Nelson and Jimmy Ward; Margaret Miller and Julia Tucker were absent, but there was a quorum present to conduct business. Also present were City Administrator Tucker, City Treasurer Suggs, Assistant to the Administrator Dziuban and City Clerk Copeland.

1. **Call to Order.** Malcolm Burgis called the meeting to order and acknowledged that the press and the public had been duly notified of the meeting in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

2. **Election of Chair and Vice Chair.**

**MOTION: Rick Linville moved to nominate Julia Tucker as Chairperson; David Nelson seconded the nomination and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**MOTION: Malcolm Burgis moved to nominate Rick Linville as Vice Chair; David Nelson seconded the nomination and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Since Ms. Tucker was absent, Mr. Linville conducted the balance of the meeting.

3. **Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes.**

**MOTION: Malcolm Burgis moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of November 13, 2007 as submitted; Vicki Hollingsworth seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

4. **Citizens' Comments.** None.

5. **Monthly Financial Statement** – Treasurer Debbie Suggs

Treasurer Suggs stated that there have been no changes to the balance sheet, but that she has transferred a large quantity of cash from BB&T to the Local Government Investment Pool to maximize interest. In the Expense section of the report, she drew the Committee's attention to the new municipal lease for the garbage truck where the first payment had been made at closing. She explained the November and December 2007 expenses, which were new to the report.

Before proceeding with the agenda, Mr. Linville welcomed Vicki Hollingsworth as the new member to the Committee.

6. **Old Business:**

Administrator Tucker directed the Committee to a copy of correspondence from Treasurer Suggs to Frans N. Mustert, Chairman of the South Carolina Tourism Expenditure Review Committee in which she requested a written opinion on the subject of spending State accommodations taxes on a beach renourishment project. The primary purpose of this letter was that Accommodations Taxes, if allowed, would be pledged to back a revenue bond for beach renourishment. An email response has been received indicating that TREK does not see any problem with that use of Accommodations Taxes.

The Administrator announced that there was to be a Special City Council meeting on Thursday, January 10 at 6:00 p.m. when City Council will be informed of all of the combinations for the City's fiscal participation in a beach renourishment project in response to the acute situation that exists on the north end of the island. One part of those scenarios will be the possibility of a revenue bond, which will use a portion of the City's Accommodations tax revenues.

**7. New Business:**

**Requests from Recreation Committee/Department:**

- A. \$2,000 for Easter Egg Hunt to be held on March 22, 2008;**
- B. \$2,500 for Piccolo Spoleto Sand Sculpting Competition on May 31, 2008;**
- C. \$7,000 for Piccolo Spoleto Goes to the Beach on June 7, 2008;**
- D. \$5,500 for Isle of Palms Beach Run on July 26, 2008.**

Recreation Department Director Page reported to the Committee that these are events which have been held on the island in years past; there is nothing new being introduced. She indicated that the requests for the Easter Egg Hunt and for the sand sculpting competition are the same as in 2007; the requests for Piccolo Spoleto at the Beach and for the Beach Run are less than in 2007, \$3,000 and \$2,500 respectively.

**MOTION: David Nelson moved that the Committee approve each of the requests from the Recreation Committee/Department noted above; Malcolm Burgis seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**8. Miscellaneous**

Administrator Tucker informed the Committee that the 2006-2007 Audit Report for the Charleston Area Convention & Visitors Bureau was included in the packets for information purposes. She also introduced Perrin Lawson who represents the Visitors Bureau at the Isle of Palms ATAX meetings; the Visitors Bureau does tourism promotion, which is why the Isle of Palms ATAX committee gives a portion of its revenues to that entity as state law dictates.

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The next meeting was scheduled for 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 6, 2008.

9. **MOTION: With no further business to come before the Committee, Malcolm Burgis moved to adjourn at 11:20 a.m.; Jimmy Ward seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Respectfully submitted:

Marie Copeland, City Clerk