

CITY COUNCIL

7:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 22, 2012

The regular meeting of the City Council was held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 22, 2012 in Council Chambers of City Hall, 1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, South Carolina. Attending the meeting were Councilmember Bettelli, Buckhannon, Carroll, Loftus, Stone, Thomas and Ward, Mayor Cronin, Administrator Tucker, Attorney Halversen, Assistant to the Administrator Dziuban and City Clerk Copeland. Although Councilmember Bergwerf had an excused absence, a quorum was present to conduct business.

1. Mayor Cronin called the meeting to order and, following a brief invocation, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Clerk Copeland called the roll.

2. Reading of the Journals of Previous Meetings

MOTION: Councilmember Loftus moved to approve the minutes of the regular Council meeting of April 24, 2012 and the Public Hearing of May 15, 2012 as submitted; Councilmember Bettelli seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. Citizens' Comments

Request for City-sponsored Volleyball Tournament at the Windjammer

Bobby Ross, Windjammer manager, described a professional group of volleyball teams who have been coming to the island for a tournament for some twenty (20) years; he was seeking approval to hold the tournament on Saturday and Sunday, June 9th and 10th and to setup courts on the beach. The men's tournament will be on Saturday with a women's and junior's tournament on Sunday. He explained that the fifteen (15) courts measure sixty feet by thirty feet (60 ft. x 30 ft.) and will be placed as close to the dunes as possible; he noted that one (1) Front Beach business has asked that no courts be on the beach behind its operation.

Mayor Cronin sought assurance that the appropriate liability insurance would be in place for the tournament, and Mr. Ross said that the policy would name the City as an additional insured.

The Mayor noted that the City had received a communication from recent beach-goers who felt that they had been overrun by volleyball nets and, consequently, had a bad beach experience. Mr. Ross replied that this tournament is well-run and professional; the nets will be put in place on Friday evening for play to begin after sunrise on Saturday morning. He assured the Mayor that play would be well underway by the time any tourists arrived at the beach. At the Public Safety Committee meeting, Mr. Ross had been asked to put reflective tape on the poles to make them visible to public safety personnel who might be on the beach after dark.

When asked if other businesses on Front Beach supported the event, Mr. Ross reiterated that this tournament is professionally operated with approximately one hundred fifty (150) teams participating. The participants will be staying on the island and eating in island restaurants; therefore, the businesses generally are welcoming to the players.

MOTION: Councilmember Bettelli moved to approve the volleyball tournament planned for June 9th and 10th, 2012 at the Windjammer as a City-sponsored event

contingent upon the organizers having the appropriate insurance and other requirements of the City; Councilmember Loftus seconded and the motion **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

4. Reports from Standing Committees

A. Ways and Means Committee

As Chair of the Committee, Mayor Cronin reported from the meeting of May 15th that both General Fund revenues and expenditures are at seventy-five percent (75%) of budget with a target of eighty-four percent (84%). Property Tax revenue continues to lag behind prior years' collections, but Treasurer Suggs voiced confidence that the budget will be met. The General Fund balance through April was at thirty-one percent (31%) of annual General Fund expenditures. All tourism funds collections are ahead of collections for FY11.

Of the City's projects, the beach restoration project has been completed with approximately four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000) remaining to be spent. Since the final reports for the 2008 and 2012 projects have not been accepted by the permitting agencies, more post-project monitoring could be required. Marina dredging has also been completed and the repairs to the Tidal Wave dock have been made. The final element of the 53rd to 57th Avenue drainage project, the relocation of the line in Wild Dunes, has been estimated to cost seventy-five thousand eight hundred seventy-four dollars (\$75,874).

Review of the FY13 capital and operating budgets produced a series of changes, including elimination of a beach walkover, Christmas lighting displays and the services of an event planner for an off-season event.

Pursuant to a recommendation from the Real Property Committee, the Ways and Means Committee voted unanimously to develop an RFP for the lease on the municipal parking lots.

The next meeting will be at 5:45 p.m. on Tuesday, June 19th, 2012.

B. Public Safety Committee

At the meeting of May 3rd, Mr. Ross made his initial presentation for a volleyball tournament at the Windjammer, which was approved earlier in this meeting. The Committee continued discussions on beach access parking relative to the limitations imposed on the City by state laws. The emergency call boxes originally on Front Beach will be relocated to Fire Station 2, the Public Safety Building and the Recreation Center. The Committee selected the following projects as its recommendations for CTC funded projects: (1) the 42nd to 52nd Avenue drainage, (2) a multi-use path from the base of the Connector through the Palm Boulevard intersection, and (3) a multi-use path on Palm Boulevard from 41st to 57th Avenue. Based on a resident's request for a speed study on Hartnett between 29th and 30th Avenue, Chief Buckhannon offered to follow-up with the resident. From the Police Department's April report, dispatchers responded to four hundred fifty-nine calls (459); several automobiles were entered, but not broken into. Residents need to be vigilant about keeping their cars locked even on their own driveways.

The primary action by the Fire Department was coordination with the Dewees Island Fire Department on the structure fire. Councilmember Bettelli announced the joint Isle of Palms and Sullivan's Island Disaster Expo from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Public Safety Building.

The next Public Safety Committee meeting will be at 5 p.m. on Thursday, June 12th in the Conference Room.

C. Public Works Committee

The Public Works Committee met on Monday, May 7th; island resident Stewart Coleman attended to learn more about the 42nd to 52nd drainage project. Administrator Tucker explained that this project was in its earliest stages with survey work being done to determine the best route to an outfall. The Department's work emphasis for April was beach sweeps and right-of-way maintenance; garbage consumption was up compared to the same month in previous years while debris was lower in comparison. This Committee also gave the City's budgets a final review and reduced the funding for a beach walkover that was ultimately eliminated at Ways and Means. In addition, a discussion was held regarding the restoration of the cannonball found on the beach in the 2008 beach restoration project; at Ways and Means the decision was made to give the cannonball to Wild Dunes to preserve. CTC funding requests were also a part of the meeting, and the Committee decided that its top priority was the 42nd to 52nd Avenue drainage and the second priority was the island-long bike path – no recommendation was made for third place. City Administrator Tucker informed the Committee that single-stream recycling would begin on the island in the area between Breach Inlet and 30th Avenue in June with the balance of the island soon to follow; in addition, she reported that the temporary fencing will be removed from 1301 Palm and the permanent fencing constructed.

The Public Works Committee will hold its next meeting at 5 p.m. on Thursday, June 14th in the Conference Room.

Mayor Cronin asked if Charleston County would be delivering the new ninety-five gallon (95 gal.) recycling bins; Director Pitts responded that a sub-contractor for the County would deliver the containers to each single family residence from Breach Inlet to 30th Avenue.

Councilmember Loftus expressed his opinion that the citizens of the island needed to be educated on single-stream recycling because it is a significant change for residents. Councilmember Buckhannon said that he had spoken with Lyn Perotti at the *Island Eye* about featuring an article on single-stream recycling explaining how it works.

No one had an answer when the Mayor asked what was going to happen with the existing recycling bins.

D. Recreation Committee

The Committee Chair was absent from the meeting and the Vice Chair was unprepared to make the report.

E. Personnel Committee

Councilmember Thomas reported that the Personnel Committee had also discussed the City's FY13 budgets at its meeting of May 1, 2012. Despite that the parade float for the Mount Pleasant Christmas parade was removed from the budget at Ways and Means, the Personnel Committee had supported the idea as being supportive of the East Cooper communities. Councilmember Stone had indicated his concern that sufficient funds were in the budget for the improvements to 1207 and 1301 Palm Boulevard.

The Personnel Committee will hold its next meeting at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, July 9th in the City Hall Conference Room.

Safety Sweepstakes winners for April were announced as Emily Dziuban from General Government, Chris Quinn from the Police Department, Joseph Washington from Public Works and Tywan Heyward from the Fire Department.

F. Real Property Committee

The meeting of May 8th started with a discussion of the City's FY13 budgets where the Committee suggested five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for the preservation of the cannonball. After a lengthy discussion, the Committee agreed to charge staff with developing an RFP for the municipal parking lots and to look into ways the lot could be revenue-producing twelve (12) months a year. The pilings removed from the marina for the dredging project were donated to the Cape Romain Wildlife Refuge for a dock, rather than have them remain at the storage location and being paying monthly storage fees. The Committee continued its discussions on parking on Ocean Boulevard and the neighboring streets of Carolina and Charleston; in addition, the Committee asked to see a mockup of parking in the City-owned space adjacent to the post office. A request has been made to the City for a private event to be held at the marina in the spring of 2013; the consensus of the Committee was to direct the event planner to the tenants at the marina to make the decision since the event would be closed to island residents. The jet dock used with the City's old boat is going to be sold as salvage.

The next meeting for Real Property will be at 5 p.m. on July 10th, 2012 in the Conference Room.

6. Reports from City Officers, Boards and Commissions

- A. Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee** – no meeting
- B. Board of Zoning Appeals** – no meeting
- C. Planning Commission** – minutes attached

7. Petitions Received, Referred or Disposed of – None

8. Bills Already in Possession of Council

Second Reading of Ordinance 2012-01 – An ordinance to raise revenue and adopt a budget for the City of Isle of Palms, South Carolina, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2013.

Mayor Cronin asked Administrator Tucker to read the ordinance into the record; a copy is attached to the historical record of the meeting.

MOTION: Councilmember Bettelli moved to adopt Ordinance 2012-01 for Second Reading; Councilmember Stone seconded and the motion PASSED on a vote of 6 to 2 with Councilmembers Buckhannon and Ward casting dissenting votes.

9. Introduction of New Bills, Resolutions and Proclamations

A. First Reading, by title only, of Ordinance 2012-02 – An ordinance for the release by quitclaim deed of the City of Isle of Palms’ interest in the property identified as Cassina Avenue and Eighteenth Avenue to the Beach Company.

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to adopt Ordinance 2012-02 for First Reading, by title only; Councilmember Bettelli seconded and the motion PASSED on a vote of 6 to 2 with Councilmembers Loftus and Thomas casting “nay” votes.

B. Proclamation in Support of National Beach Safety Week.

Administrator Tucker read the proclamation into the record; a copy is attached to the historical record of the meeting.

MOTION: Councilmember Buckhannon moved to adopt the Proclamation in Support of National Beach Week as read; Councilmember Bettelli seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. Miscellaneous Business

A. Consideration of CTC Funding Requests for FY13

Since the both the Public Safety and the Public Works Committees agreed that the City’s top priority was the next phase of drainage from 42nd to 52nd Avenues, he recommended that it be the City’s number one priority to the CTC and that the other Committee priorities be combined for number two as multi-use paths from the Connector through the Palm Boulevard intersection in coordination with a bike path stretching the length of the island.

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to identify the priorities described above as the City’s FY13 funding requests; Councilmember Loftus seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. Status of SCE&G Easements

Mayor Cronin noted that Councilmembers were given information relative to the SCE&G easements as they arrived for the meeting; SCE&G is anxious to get the executed documents, so the Mayor wanted to schedule a Special Meeting for First Reading in order to hold the Second

Reading at the June Council meeting. He suggested that the Special Meeting take place at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, June 12th, and the Committee agreed.

It was brought to the Clerk's attention that one (1) document had been duplicated and one (1) had been omitted from the three (3) documents distributed. Clerk Copeland stated that she would send the missing document electronically the next day.

C. Disaster Preparedness Expo at 5-7 pm on Wednesday, June 13th at the Public Safety Building

D. Notification of Charleston County Resurfacing Schedule

The City has received notification from Charleston County that 5th Avenue through 13th Avenue, Charleston, Hartnett and Oak Harbor will be resurfaced at some time later this year.

Next Meeting Date: 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, June 26, 2012

Councilmember Buckhannon asked the status of an amendment to the GC3 zoning district, and Administrator Tucker reminded the Committee that a change would allow for outdoor seating in the GC3 district. An ordinance change will be on the agenda for First Reading at the June Council meeting; assuming that the ordinance passes First Reading, it will go to the Planning Commission for review before returning to Council for Second Reading. Businesses interested in outdoor seating will then go through the process before the Board of Zoning Appeals.

11. Executive Session – unnecessary

12. Adjourn

MOTION: Councilmember Buckhannon moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 p.m.; Councilmember Bettelli seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted:

Marie Copeland
City Clerk