

CITY COUNCIL

7:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 27, 2013

The regular meeting of City Council was held at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 27, 2013 in Council Chambers of City Hall, 1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, South Carolina. Attending the meeting were Councilmembers Bergwerf, Bettelli, Buckhannon, Carroll, Loftus, Stone, Thomas and Ward, Mayor Cronin, Administrator Tucker, Attorney Halversen, Assistant to the Administrator Dziuban and City Clerk Copeland; a quorum was present to conduct business.

1. Mayor Cronin called the meeting to order and acknowledged that the press and public had been duly notified of the meeting in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act. Following a brief invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance, the Clerk called the roll.

2. Reading of the Journals of Previous Meetings

MOTION: Councilmember Bettelli moved to approve the minutes of the public hearing of July 23, 2013, the regular meeting of July 23, 2013, and the Special Meetings of August 13 and August 20, 2013 as submitted: Councilmember Bergwerf seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. Citizens' Comments

Update on Beach Access Parking – Rick Day, Stantec

Administrator Tucker recounted that the City embarked several months ago on dual efforts for wayfinding signs to direct beach visitors to available public parking and ways to improve beach access parking in general; the City contracted with Stantec for both efforts. The FY14 budget contains funds for the final phases of the wayfinding sign initiative and the remaining phases of beach access parking. At the Ways and Means Committee meeting, the Committee related that the island's residents were anxious to see some positive movement in addressing the seasonal traffic and parking issues; therefore, Council wanted an update from Stantec on their recommendations and some aspects that could possibly be implemented for the next beach season.

Mayor Cronin noted that Robert Clark and Nathan Umberger were in the audience representing SCDOT, who will be available for support and additional information if needed.

Rick Day of Stantec initiated his comments by recapping the goals set for Stantec's work as the following:

- Any plan needs to be comprehensive, with safety being of utmost importance to both the motoring public, bicyclists and pedestrians;
- The plan should look at the impact on the residents and businesses of the island; and
- The plan should be mindful of the traffic congestion and adhere to local, state and federal regulations.

Stantec began their work by reviewing the volumes of information gathered by the Planning Commission, staff and City Council relative to parking over recent years, as well as meeting with the department managers and police and fire chiefs to discuss parking both in the peak season and off-peak times to gain a full understanding of the issues facing the City; Stantec staff also

and throughout the year. Stantec personnel have performed field observations at both peak inventoried parking issues and spoke with personnel from other beach communities along the east coast to draw from their experiences. He thanked the members of Council for their time as he met with each individually to understand their desires and expectations for improving the parking and traffic issues that plague the island several months of the year.

Mr. Day then reviewed the findings that Stantec believes to be important as follows:

- The volume of traffic that comes onto the island in the peak season is significant compared to the remainder of the year and it puts a burden upon the City relative to parking, traffic and safety of residents and visitors.
- Surrounding population growth means an increased demand in peak seasons in the future.
- Much of the parking that occurs is moving deeper and deeper into the neighborhoods.
- Parking recommendations need to enhance safety both in parking, traffic flow and pedestrians.
- Paramount is how parking and congestion impact police and fire response to emergencies on the island.
- The City of Isle of Palms is in a unique situation compared to other beach communities on the east coast in that SCDOT, not the City, owns the roads, but there is legislation that allows local municipalities to regulate parking on state rights-of-way provided it is safe and non-discriminatory.
- Whatever is done on the island should be done at a pace good for the community and City and in accordance with the Beach Management Plan. The parking available on the island today is in excess of what is required by the Beach Management Plan.

With those understandings, Mr. Day launched into Stantec's recommendations, which are both short- and long-term. The short-term recommendations are as follows:

- A minor reduction of parking at the intersections to allow for better line-of-sight and improved safety for motorists and pedestrians, as well as vegetation and fencing that might be in the lines-of-sight to work within the rights-of-way for safe access.
- Suggesting that crosswalks on Ocean and Palm Boulevards be re-striped to be more observable and possibly adding more crosswalks for pedestrian safety. Additionally parking might be pulled back from the crosswalks for better site lines.
- Where parking is close to the edge of the street, efforts could be to pull parking back from the edge of the street or remove that parking to eliminate the impedance of emergency vehicles.
- Efforts could be made to provide safety of movement for golf carts and golf cart parking.
- Continuing to provide information to motorists, i.e. where to park, where to park legally, traffic conditions, etc., via changeable message signs, websites or computer applications, allowing visitors to better plan their trip to the island.

The long-term recommendation, which is more complex, consists of a parking permit program for City-wide parking at the curb faces of the island. Stantec has looked at various strategies to restrict parking into the neighborhoods and the impact on safety and believes that a parking

permit program is the best approach to the problems. Stantec envisions that a City-issued permit would be required for parking on the curbs or along the streets with parallel parking; off-street parking in the County Park would continue without a permit as it exists today; the same would be true for parking in the municipal parking lots. Stantec believes that this program would help with traffic flow and the spillover of parking into the neighborhoods; the purpose of the program would be to manage the number of vehicles visiting the City to better match and reflect the parking supply and capacity of the streets to process the vehicles safely.

In general, Mr. Day is proposing an annual permit program that would be operational in the peak season, May to September; the pass could also be for a specific period of time during the day, possibly 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. In addition to the annual permit, Stantec is suggesting that the City issue a limited number of day passes that one could secure on-line, similar to getting an airplane boarding pass. He repeated that these suggestions are based on looking at the City's infrastructure and what it can handle, making sure not to oversell what can actually be processed safely through the City. The process would be predicated on a rational approach, addressing safety, infrastructure capacity and meeting the requirements of the Beach Management Plan. The program will have to be administered without bias to residents and visitors. Stantec is suggesting that the cost of the program be based on the cost to administer the program and to spread the cost so that it is a revenue-neutral program. And, finally, the City must be sure that the program meets the test of the Beach Management Plan, which Stantec believes that it will, having met with the City's attorney. If the City decides to proceed with this program, Stantec will need to work closely with SCDOT, and preliminary discussions have already taken place; the program will be based on data collected to make sure that it is not arbitrary. Mr. Day stated that this program will be something new and will quite likely be tested in court. He reiterated that the program must be equitable to all involved, developed based on data, is not arbitrary, and meets all local, state and federal rules and regulations.

Mayor Cronin asked if Stantec had encountered any other communities using a parking permit program; Mr. Day responded that South Carolina is unique in terms of the ownership of the street network – no other state has the same situation.

The Mayor then asked if the program could be phased in geographically. Mr. Day said that was a possibility, but would need to be fleshed out; he added that he thought it would be difficult to implement by the 2014 beach season.

Councilmember Ward voiced his understanding that, since the City has public parking in the Front Beach area, the City does not have to provide parking from approximately 3rd Avenue to 30th Avenue. Mr. Day answered that Stantec believes that the intent of the Beach Management Plan can be met with this permit program. Administrator Tucker explained that the way DHEC and OCRM regulations are written, the City gets credit for public access depending on the amenities close by; if one provides public restrooms and amenities like at the County Park and Front Beach, the City is credited with a certain amount of distance in public access. If there are just parking spaces with no amenities at public beach accesses, there is a different level of credit. Therefore, by having public restrooms and other amenities at both the County Park and Front Beach, the City has a great distance along Front Beach; the City also gets credit for a little distance where the City has public beach access paths with public parking. The City exceeds the parking required by the Beach Management Act throughout the island except from Grand

Pavilion and Dewees Inlet because there is no public parking that can be counted toward public access.

Councilmember Ward repeated his stance that parking needs to be controlled, not increased.

Administrator Tucker repeated that the permit program would target specific hours during specific times of the year.

Councilmember Stone asked whether this program contemplated opening Ocean Boulevard to parking, and Mr. Day responded negatively. The Councilmember sought confirmation that a study needed to take place and a minimum standard put into place to effectively limit the number of vehicles that can ingress and egress the island in a safe fashion. Mr. Day concurred and added that the minimum standard would be based on the infrastructure and safety, a rational approach that is not arbitrary.

Councilmember Buckhannon stated that he does not think that the issuance of passes will limit the number of people coming to the island; people will continue to come and get ticketed. He thinks the biggest problem is safety and contends that island-wide parking should be four feet (4 ft.) from the edge of the pavement. If there are streets where that cannot be achieved, those streets should be no parking streets.

Mr. Clark of SCDOT confirmed that the only statute he is aware of is that, when a vehicle is parked, all four (4) tires are to be off the road.

Mayor Cronin expressed his opinion that, if it takes legislation requiring vehicles to be parked four feet (4 ft.) from the road's edge island-wide, it could be done with the assistance of local legislators.

Councilmember Bettelli expressed concern that a parking permit system would push visitors up the avenues; Mayor Cronin reiterated that the parking permit/pass system would affect parking island-wide and residents as well as visitors.

Councilmember Loftus stated that island residents are frustrated with years of talking and no action; he asked Mr. Day to define a timeline to get this permit/pass system operational for the 2014 beach season.

Mr. Day responded that the first decision is actually approving a budget for the work to begin and that would be followed by the analysis, documentation and legal research. He indicated that he did not come to this meeting with a specific timeline or funding proposal.

Councilmember Carroll voiced a desire to take "baby-steps" forward, but he firmly supported a four foot (4 ft.) from pavement initiative.

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to authorize Stantec and staff to proceed with a City-issued day-pass/annual permit parking system for on-street parking in the rights-of-way to be implemented as soon as possible; Councilmember Ward seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to proceed to look at line-of-sight, fencing and vegetation issues, pedestrian crossing, and emergency access as they relate to parking and at providing information to motorists via radio, electronic signs and, possibly, a computer application to be implemented no later than the 2014 beach season working with Stantec as needed; Councilmember Ward seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to proceed with SCDOT and others as required to legislate parking four feet (4 ft.) from the pavement island-wide on a seasonal basis; Councilmember Bettelli seconded.

Councilmember Carroll voiced his opinion that making the parking seasonal was discriminatory and arbitrary.

When Councilmember Bergwerf asked whether the chalk line delineating four feet (4 ft.) on Palm Boulevard was drawn year-round, Administrator Tucker stated that it was not, but the law requiring the parking distance from the road was in effect twelve (12) months a year.

VOTE: The motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Overview of Most Recent Beach Monitoring – Steven Traynum, Coastal Science and Engineering

Mayor Cronin announced that Coastal Science and Engineering (CSE) has recently completed the 2013 monitoring of the island's beach from Breach to Dewees Inlets; due to the concerns over the erosion at Breach Inlet, CSE is giving the City a preliminary update prior to submitting the full written report. A copy of the presentation is attached to the historical record of the meeting.

The shoal on the northeast end of the island is centered off Shipwatch and Mariners Walk complexes and has moved close enough to shore to be readily visible at low tide; waves over the shoal are pushing a great deal of sand onto the beach as it is expected to attach in the coming year. Since the 2008 project, this area of beach, referred to as Reach 7, from Dewees Inlet to the end of the 2008 work zone, has gained one hundred fourteen thousand (114,000) cubic yards per foot; only fifty thousand (50,000) cubic yards were added to Reach 7.

In Reach 6, from the Property Owners' Beach House to the 18th hole, the beach remains healthier than before the project, but the problem area is around Ocean Club. Overall the reach has performed very well, gaining three hundred seventy-seven thousand (377,000) cubic yards per foot.

At the northeast end of the island, only Reach 5 is below the level of the 2008 project. In the area east of Grand Pavilion the beach has lost three hundred twenty-five thousand eight hundred (325,800) cubic yards per foot of sand. The shoal that attached in 2007 has only eroded away since then, but it may not appear so because the beach was so wide.

In reviewing the 2012 Shoal Management Project, the one year post-nourishment survey shows that the 2012 borrow area, from the western Beach Club unit to Shipwatch is close to its pre-nourishment condition. The fill area has eroded more quickly than expected and is below its pre-nourishment condition.

Generally speaking, Mr. Traynum reported that no area of the island has been stable – there has been either erosion or accretion. Another project of ninety to one hundred thousand (90,000 to 100,000) cubic yards of sand is feasible for this winter; according to the 2012 Shoal Management Project, the one hundred (100) foot trigger has been reached at Dunecrest and the east side of Beachwood East area.

The areas of the beach with the most gain in sand over the past year are Reaches 2 through 4, 6th Avenue to 53rd Avenue; the Front Beach area is stable and accretional.

In the area of Breach Inlet, Mr. Traynum described “a decent scarp, but . . . not a fresh scarp” when surveyed in July. The 2012 survey the beach had been eroding, but with no impacts to walkovers; Hurricane Sandy took a lot of sand from this area as it swept up the coast and the erosion continued all winter. Breach Inlet does appear to be stable now, and he reiterated that the history for this area of the beach is accretion. CSE is confident that it will recover, but the timeframe for that is unknown. Over the past two (2) years, the inlet has shifted toward Sullivan’s Island which is causing sand to be drawn toward Sullivan’s Island; this is the main reason for the erosion.

If the City is inclined to take action to hasten the recovery of Breach Inlet, the options are as follows:

- emergency sandbags – if the erosion reaches within ten feet (10 ft.) of a structure;
- emergency scraping – usually after a storm and if declared an emergency, City allowed a one (1) time order without a permit;
- small scale nourishment – bringing in sand from upland and only a temporary fix; or
- large-scale inlet realignment project – artificially shift the channel closer to the Isle of Palms, changing where the sand is going.

Mayor Cronin asked whether CSE was recommending a project at Breach Inlet; he repeated that CSE is confident that the beach will come back on its own without intervention.

Responding to the Mayor who asked for further explanation of an inlet realignment project, Mr. Traynum explained that such a project involves bringing in a dredge that would actually dredge a new channel that would be closer to IOP and use the sand to nourishment the shoreline at Breach Inlet.

Councilmember Loftus asked what the effect of a large storm event would be on an inlet realignment project; Mr. Traynum responded that the channel would be much more stable than the beach, but the damage is difficult to predict.

Mr. Traynum indicated that CSE is suggesting a project over the winter for the east end of the island since there is enough sand available to get the City to the point where the shoal attaches and straightens the beach out. Mayor Cronin agreed that a plan should be put together.

Since the City has not received approval of the requested permit modifications, Administrator Tucker pointed out that the City would be taking risk that it is having its second and last project under the existing permit. Mr. Traynum assured the Administrator that the City would receive approval in the near future and a project could not begin until November 1.

Councilmember Stone inquired about permitting for sand fencing, and Mr. Traynum responded that the state has design guidelines, but no permit is necessary.

Request for City-sponsored Event – Kenda Sweet, Kenda Sweet Events

Ms. Sweet stated that she is an independent event planner who has planned the annual event for Johnson and Johnson, an independently owned insurance agency, for the past thirteen (13) years. She stated that she is challenged with coming up with a plan each year that tops the previous one; she recalled the circus tent that was set up in the County Park a couple of years ago. This year the principals want to land a helicopter on the beach in front of the Grand Pavilion, and a walk-through was done yesterday with all of the entities involved, i.e. the Wild Dunes Community Association, Lowe Wild Dunes, representatives of the County Park, the resort and security staff, as well as Andrew Nehlig of Low Country Helicopters. Ms. Sweet reported that the plan had been approved by all of those parties to move forward; the helicopter will take off from the County Park. She is appearing before Council to secure approval to land the helicopter on the beach at the end of the boardwalk at the Grand Pavilion on Wild Dunes property.

Mayor Cronin noted that the helicopter will land on the dry beach, not the active beach, and be on the beach approximately five minutes (5 min.) as confirmed by helicopter pilot Andrew Nehlig.

Councilmember Carroll asked why the event had be City-sponsored. Administrator Tucker explained that the City has a list of approved annual events that have been held on the island for some time and are pre-approved. The second type of City-sponsored event occurs in a situation where a City regulation is in place that prohibits the event from happening; in this case, there is a regulation that prohibits aircraft from landing and taking off from the beach. In order to be able to do such as that, the function must be designated as City-sponsored; the City cannot give permission to violate its own ordinances, except under the provision of being City-sponsored. This is similar to the beer garden that was held last year at the Connector Run.

Councilmember Ward asked whether Ms. Sweet was paying Charleston County for the use of the park; Ms. Sweet answered affirmatively, but she does not know what the fee will be. She remembered that she had paid four to five hundred dollars (\$400-500) when the tent was erected. The Councilmember recalled that she had indicated she would use IOP police officers, and he asked how they would be paid; the Mayor said she would hire only off-duty officers. The contract with Wild Dunes totals three hundred thirty-nine thousand dollars (\$339,000).

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to approve the special event of Friday, November 1, 2013 in Wild Dunes involving a helicopter landing on the beach as a City-sponsored event; Councilmember Stone seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to re-order the *Agenda* to move item 5.A to this point in the meeting; Councilmember Bettelli seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. Reports from City Officers, Boards and Commissions

**A. Accommodations Tax Advisory Board
Recommendation to Procure Architectural/Engineering Services for Design
of Replacement of the Public Restrooms**

The Mayor stated that the goal was to fund the architectural and engineering services from this year's budget and to look at construction, depending on the costs, in the FY15 budget year.

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to procure the services described above; Councilmember Ward seconded.

Administrator Tucker reported that considerable discussion has taken place recently regarding the public restrooms; both the ATAX Committee and the Public Works Committee discussed the condition of the restrooms at their meetings, as has the business adjacent to the restrooms. The Administrator opined that original purposes of the discussions had been to rehabilitate the restrooms to make them better, not to replace them altogether. Director Kerr was asked to attend this meeting to explain the limitations – the fifty percent (50%) rule – under which the City functions with regard to work on the public restrooms. The Director explained the rule thoroughly to the ATAX Committee and, since the restrooms cannot be majorly renovated, their response was to move toward replacing them with something that meets current flood elevation and ADA standards. The ATAX Committee seeks to move forward by funding the engineering and design for a new structure, anticipating a favorable design that can be constructed in the near future.

Councilmember Stone explained that the fifty percent (50%) rule states that one cannot improve a property more than fifty percent (50%) of its value if it is sub-standard to the flood requirements. He added that the public restrooms should be seventeen to nineteen (17-19) feet in elevation to meet flood requirements.

Councilmember Ward reiterated his opinion that the restrooms need to be replaced. He stated that a new facility on Front Beach might mean that visitors to the island would be drawn back to the Front Beach and not park in the neighborhoods.

Administrator Tucker reported that the City has been searching for a vendor that would not only pressure wash the facility but also disinfect it, and staff believes that a vendor was found today.

Councilmember Buckhannon said that the possible need for an elevator in order to meet ADA requirements had been discussed at the Public Works Committee meeting which would

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increase the cost of a new structure significantly. The Committee had expressed optimism that a ground level, family restroom with flood wall would be an alternative.

VOTE: The motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. Reports from Standing Committees

A. Ways and Means Committee

From the meeting of August 20, Mayor Cronin reported that the Committee had been presented with the limited financial data for the first month of the new fiscal year; he reiterated the fact that typically revenues received in July are actually attributable to June. For the General Fund, revenue collected equals two hundred eighty-two thousand dollars (\$282,000), and expenditures totaled five hundred forty-five thousand dollars (\$545,000) or six percent (6%) of the FY14 General Fund budget. Cash on-hand is approximately three million dollars, (\$3,000,000) that represents one third ($\frac{1}{3}$) on annual General Fund Expenditures. Treasurer Suggs had reported that there had not been any significant financial activity in the on-going projects of the City. On the subject of preliminary and unaudited results for FY13, the City still has not received the year's final installments of Local Option Sales Taxes and State ATAX, but the projected surplus for FY13 is seven hundred thirty thousand dollars (\$730,000). The Mayor noted that the City will have more information from the auditors next month, and Council will need to provide guidance on how that will be used. Bids were taken and accepted for the sale of surplus equipment, one (1) Ford Explorer and two (2) jet skis. In a discussion of updating the home occupations business licenses, it was noted that the City has issued seventy-eight (78) such licenses, which generate a total of sixteen thousand three hundred five dollars (\$16,305) in revenue; the Committee chose to take no action.

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to award a contract to Motorola Solutions in the amount of \$11,020.17 for 24/7 service and support for the Dispatch Center as included in the FY14 budget; Councilmember Ward seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to award a contract to Vic Bailey Ford in the amount of \$52,186.00 for two 4-wheel drive vehicles, at state contract pricing and included in the FY14 budget; Councilmember Bettelli seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mayor Cronin announced that, in a Special Meeting, Councilmembers would get a personal tour of the Charleston County Consolidated Dispatch Center the following day.

The next Ways and Means Committee meeting will be at 5:45 p.m. on Wednesday, September 17, 2013 in Council Chambers.

B. Public Safety Committee

In reporting on the September 5 meeting, Councilmember Bettelli stated that, under the hearing of *Old Business*, the Committee had discussed the possibility of having NO PARKING signs for Palm Boulevard between 40th and 41st Avenues; Chief Buckhannon reported that SCDOT had visited the site was reviewing its findings. In an update on the Battery2Beach signage, the Mayor stated that he would contact Tom Bradford of Charleston Moves to get more information and report back at the next meeting. Relative to the Public Safety Building, it has taken some time to identify a qualified individual to supervise the repairs to the diesel piping, but someone has been found and a price agreed upon. The Committee also discussed parking on 42nd Avenue pursuant to a letter to SCDOT, who is reviewing the issues; Chief Buckhannon added that NO PARKING HERE TO CORNER signs were recently installed on said avenue. As to parking on 9th Avenue, SCDOT has denied the permit for a driveway on the front of the house and recommended that the driveway be constructed on the side of the house; the problem for the homeowner is that his septic system is located to the side of the property. He has appealed the SCDOT decision. With notification from Charleston County that County Council has passed an ordinance requiring bars to close at 2 a.m., the Committee discussed the need of following in their footsteps, but decided to take a "wait and see" attitude for the island. Chief Buckhannon confirmed that the signs have been installed at Palm Path Way indicating NO PARKING HERE TO CORNER to increase sight distance for traffic using this entrance to Wild Dunes, and, based on a speed study, the speed limit on Palm Boulevard has been increased to 35 miles per hour. Under highlights from the Fire Department, Chief Graham stated that personnel responded to a boat accident involving a dock behind the 2500 block of Waterway Boulevard; the two (2) patients with obvious traumatic injuries were transported by EMS. On July 6th, personnel responded to a man pinned under a boat trailer; once the trailer was removed, the patient was transported by EMS. In the month of July, personnel responded to one hundred forty-one (141) calls; eighty-one (81) were for EMS. From the Police July report, the Chief stated that officers had weekly follow-ups with the eight (8) rental companies on the island as they continued to collect documented property identification information to be entered into the Department's records management system. During the month of July, dispatchers responded to four thousand eight hundred thirty-five (4,835) calls; three thousand five hundred thirty-five (3,535) were for the Police Department. A total of four hundred sixty-seven (467) traffic stops occurred, producing one hundred ten (110) citations. Officers wrote two hundred fifteen (215) reports in the month; ten (10) vehicles and four (40) houses were broken into in July. Of the sixty-three (63) arrests made, thirty-nine (39) were for liquor law violations. From a total of nineteen (19) noise complaints, fourteen (14) citations were written. Chief Buckhannon stated that he believes that the later parking enforcement and longer hours for the parking lots has helped a great deal with the large crowds that Front Beach was attracting on Sunday evenings.

The next Public Safety Committee meeting will be at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, September 9, 2013 in the City Hall Conference Room.

C. Public Works Committee

At the meeting of August 1, Director Pitts reported the work emphasis for June and July was beach sweeps to remove debris, i.e. broken chairs and tents primarily. Without being asked, the Recreation Department responded to the number of beach sweeps by assisting with the mowing of the rights-of-way for which the Public Works Department was very grateful. DOT and

Charleston County have started some ditch maintenance on the island. At Wills Way and 30th Avenue, they have worked to resolve an issue from the block of 30th and Hartnett; they have also been re-structuring the 25th Avenue outfall. Garbage collections continue to trend downward while yard debris trends upward. The yellow barrels placed on the landward side of Palm Boulevard did not have the desired effect – very little garbage was placed in them; they have been relocated where they can be used more efficiently. When the City looked into using inmates to clear 1801 Palm Boulevard, they learned that, (1) if anyone was injured, that injury would go against the City's workers compensation record for a period of three (3) years and (2) the inmates would have to be supervised by IOP personnel. The primary issues relative to cleaning up the lot remain that there are protected vegetation species that cannot be cut and few vendors have qualified personnel under their employ. While City staff investigates whether the Clemson Extension can help, the City would accept bids from landscape designers to identify the protected species. On Phase 2 of the City's drainage project, Dave Stevens reported that the routing has been completed; with requested changes made, he is ready to submit the plans for MS4 and the encroachment permit. As he awaits the permit, he is going to submit the plans for initial cost estimates so that the City can make decisions about phasing of the project. For the problem at Sparrow and Duck, Mr. Stevens explained that the eight inch (8 in.) pipe currently in place is inadequate, is too high and does not meet current DOT requirements; he proposes putting in a fifteen inch (15 in.) pipe and grading the ditch down to stay open for a while. Another area of concern is along Palm Boulevard between 55th and 57th Avenues where pipes were again installed too high; again Mr. Stevens proposes installing a fifteen inch (15 in.) drain line from 55th Avenue to the existing drainage at the beach access between 56th and 57th Avenues. This work will require a DOT encroachment permit that will fall within the existing storm drainage requirements. A rough estimate of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) was given for an effort to relieve flooding at #7 56th Avenue, but the work quoted will not alleviate the problem since their property is lower than the road. Pursuant to discussions about extending the sidewalk along JC Long Boulevard, the Committee decided to take no further action. From a request by Councilmember Ward, the Committee discussed the condition of the Front Beach restrooms and reached the same conclusions as the ATAX Committee. A modification to the IOP code to allow for chickens as pets was considered, but no action was taken. The Committee reviewed photographs of the flooding in the back yard of a residence on 22nd Avenue that the owner attributes to the County's piping of the ditch in years past; Charleston County has agreed to clean the sediment of the pipe and to repair an area of the pipe that is compromised some thirty to forty feet (30-40 ft.) into it. Considerable discussion took place about complaints coming from some Wild Dunes' residents about how yard debris is removed; Director Pitts states that he cannot move the amount of debris generated on the island with the level of personnel and equipment the City has and give yard debris removal the level of attention certain residents wants.

The Public Works Committee will meet at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, September 10th in the City Hall Conference Room.

D. Recreation Committee

From the meeting of August 5th, Councilmember Bergwerf reported that most classes that were discontinued for the summer will resume in September, i.e. adult softball, 3-on-3 basketball, 6-on-6 soccer and table tennis. The 15th Annual Half Rubber Tournament was held August 17th

and 18th with twelve (12) teams participating. Youth sports registration continues for lacrosse, soccer and volleyball with practices to being the last week of August. Due to low participation, the senior aerobics class will not continue into the fall, but a new program will take its place for the island's seniors. Tennis classes will start again in August; yoga and Zumba continue to be successful programs for the Rec Center. Camp Summershine concluded on August 2; a total of four hundred seventy-eight (478) children attended, and four hundred forty (440) were island residents. The HVAC in the lobby was replaced under the FY14 budget and repairs were done to a second unit. Personnel continue to white-line Palm Boulevard and to delineate the fifteen foot (15 ft.) radius for fire hydrants in the middle of the blocks. In July the Recreation Center was open to residents and visitors for a total of three hundred forty-nine hours (349 hrs.).

The next Recreation Committee meeting will be at 4:00 p.m., September 9th in the City Hall Conference Room.

E. Personnel Committee

At the Personnel Committee of August 1st, Chief Graham read into the minutes the circumstances of June 30th that led to the commendations being awarded to Captain Roger Eagle, Firefighters Dana McLoughlin and Tyler Richardson, Engineers Dana Burnette, Chris Puckhaber, Trevor Speelman and Chris Fassos and Paramedic Greg Samuelson. A copy of the commendation is attached to the historical record of this meeting. Chief Graham related a discussion she had earlier with the Public Safety Committee, explaining the need for one (1) additional person per shift, a total of three (3), for Station 2 and the need for increased pay for Fire Department personnel. The Committee was receptive to the Chief's comments and asked that she continue to gather data for specific wage recommendations. The other topic for discussion was the 2014 appointments to boards and commissions; Assistant Dziuban explained that the advertisement had been in both *The Island Eye* and *The Moultrie News*; the deadline for applications is August 30th.

The July Safety Sweepstakes winners are Kerrie Ferrell from the Recreation Department, Russell Roper from Public Works, Sharon Baldrick from the Police Department and Stephen Goodwin from the Fire Department.

The next Personnel Committee meeting will be held on September 9th at 9:00 a.m. in the Conference Room.

F. Real Property Committee

Ben Floyd, a charter boat captain who operates his business out of the IOP marina, spoke at the meeting held on August 14th about what he considers to be unsafe practices by personnel of TidalWave Watersports in Dewees Inlet; Dewees Inlet is beyond IOP jurisdiction, so the issue will be left to DNR to resolve. Phillip Smith addressed the Committee regarding the improvements to the TidalWave dock; his concerns were (1) the new covered pier head is closer to his property line, (2) the increased size of the covered pier head and (3) the negative impact on the value of his property with these proposed improvements. Mr. Smith was asking the Committee (1) to withdraw the permit, (2) to re-evaluate the impact of the improvement to the bordering residential property and (3) to relocate the TidalWave dock further to the north within the

existing public City docks. Administrator Tucker stated that there was never any intent to have a negative impact on the Smith's property; the design Mr. Shaffer developed was as a result of a meeting with the Committee and the tenant and was intended to correct some of the struggles the tenant has had with their business operation. Mr. Shaffer of Ocean and Coastal Consultants reported that, in the spring, he had worked with the City and the tenant for a conceptual design that was based on the fact that the existing structure had been damaged from the dredging process and was repaired to allow the business to continue operating through the summer of 2012 with plans for replacement in 2013. The discussion concluded with a plan for a joint meeting with all of the stakeholders to see what changes can be made to have less of an impact on Mr. Smith's property. Since the last meeting, letters have been sent to the owners of identified bandit boats parking in Morgan Creek Grill's slips indicating to them that they should not continue to use the slips when not dining at the restaurant. Captain Usry had stated that, since these slips are included in the Morgan Creek Grill lease, the restaurant is responsible for them. Marina Manager Berrigan said that, by not enforcing the patron-only parking in the docks, Morgan Creek Grill is violating their lease; Councilmember Buckhannon stated that, if they do not want to manage the docks as per their lease agreement, they then should be required to relinquish the use of those docks. The Committee unanimously supported a motion for Attorney Halversen to write a letter to Morgan Creek Grill instructing them to police the docks assigned to them in their lease or to be in default of said lease, or as an alternative, Morgan Creek Grill can give up control of said docks.

MOTION: Councilmember Buckhannon proposed the same motion for City Council; Councilmember Ward seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Administrator Tucker reported that the RFB for the replacement of the land-based fuel dispensers at the marina had been advertised and that bids are due August 30th.

The next meeting date is 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, September 4, 2013 in the Conference Room.

5. Reports from City Officers, Boards and Commissions

1. **Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee** – earlier in the meeting
2. **Board of Zoning Appeals** – minutes attached
3. **Planning Commission** – minutes attached

6. Reports from Special of Joint Committees – None

7. Petitions Received, Referred or Disposed of – None

8. Bills Already in Possession of Council – None

9. Introduction of New Bills, Resolutions and Proclamations – None

10. Miscellaneous Business

Next Meeting Date: 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 24, 2013

- 11. Executive Session – not needed**
- 12. Conclusion/Adjournment**

MOTION: Councilmember Bettelli moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:18 p.m.; Councilmember Stone seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted:

Marie Copeland
City Clerk