

RECREATION COMMITTEE
5:00 p.m., Monday, March 3, 2014

The regular meeting of the Recreation Committee was held at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 3, 2014 in the City Hall Conference Room, 1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, South Carolina. Attending the meeting were Councilmembers Buckhannon and Harrington, Chair Carroll, City Administrator Tucker, Recreation Director Page, Assistant to the Administrator Dziuban and City Clerk Copeland; a quorum was present to conduct business.

1. Chair Carroll 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.

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

MOTION: Councilmember Buckhannon moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 10, 2014 as submitted; Councilmember Harrington seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. **Citizens' Comments** – None

4. **Departmental Report for February 2014** – Director Page

Director Page reported that captains' meetings for adult softball, 3-on-3 basketball and 6-vs-6 soccer were held on Tuesday, March 4th, with games beginning on Tuesday, March 18th. Nine (9) participants have signed up for adult, fall table tennis leagues. The 16th Annual Half Rubber Tournament is scheduled for Saturday, August 16th and 17th, if needed; information about the tournament is on the City's website. Youth basketball is over, and the regional tournament being held on the island is scheduled for Friday, March 7th and Saturday, March 8th. Teams from St. Andrews, Bluffton, North Charleston, James Island, the Peninsula and Mount Pleasant will participate. Skill evaluations/coaches' meeting for youth baseball will be held on Monday, March 3rd with games to begin on Monday April 7th. The IOP Beach Run has been scheduled for Saturday, July 19th; currently sponsors are being secured, applications are being developed and t-shirts are being proofed.

While Assistant Recreation Director Ferrell is on maternity leave, Laura Togami is taking care of programs and classes. With warmer weather right around the corner, DNR has scheduled two (2) boater education classes at the Recreation Center – one on Saturday, March 8th and a second on Saturday, April 12th. The Department will host a *tae kwon do* tournament on Saturday, March 15th.

A Wellness Trivia Day was held on Wednesday, February 26th at *The Windjammer*; those who attended had a lot of fun. Although the weather did not hold, Island Gras was a successful event held on Saturday, March 1st; photos are posted on the City's website. Upcoming events include St. Patty's Craft on Thursday, March 13th; the annual yard sale on Saturday, March 29th; the Egg-cellent Craft on Thursday, April 17th; the Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 19th and the Piccolo Spoleto Sand Sculpting Contest on Saturday, June 7th.

5. **Old Business** – None

6. New Business

Review of FY15 Operating and Capital Budgets

Administrator Tucker reported that all departmental operating budgets include a six percent (6%) merit pool, fuel at four dollars twenty-five cents (\$4.25) per gallon, and a state-mandated increase in retirement. Part-time wages have been increased slightly to reflect the continuing activities and actual expenses year-to-date. Non-capital tools and equipment has been increased to purchase lobby furniture, staff chairs and folding chairs and racks. The addition of twenty-seven hundred dollars (\$2,700) to maintenance and contracts will be used to reline the gymnasium floor for volleyball and basketball. As in prior years, a small increase in insurance rates is reflected in the FY15 budget for all departments. Overall, the Recreation Department FY15 Operating Budget is five percent (5%) greater than FY14.

Chair Carroll asked about the lobby furniture and staff chairs; Director Page responded that she wanted to add a couple of tables for the knitters and said that the staff chairs are ten years (10 yrs.) old, lack support and showing wear-and-tear. In addition, the Rec Center has about forty (40) old folding chairs that are in very bad condition and are used in the gym; the goal is to get rid of them and have the same type chairs in the Palmetto/Magnolia Room.

Items carried over to FY15 on the Capital Budget include the following:

Additional/Replacement playground or outside scoreboard equipment (only if failure)	\$10,000
Replace basketball scoreboard in gym (only if failure)	5,000
Replace HVAC in Expansion (only if failure)	20,000

Additions to the FY15 Capital Budget are the following:

Replace computer server	6,000
Add 3 exterior cameras & upgrade existing cameras to digital	10,000
Replace Rec-2 pickup truck (2006 Ford F-150)	22,000
Built-in bleachers for gym	30,000

Chair Carroll inquired as to the mileage on the pickup truck; Director Page responded that the truck has thirty-four thousand one hundred ninety-one (34,191) miles and is a 2006 model. The Director indicated that there have been no mechanical problems with the truck and that she sees no problem with moving the replacement to FY16.

Chair Carroll then asked about going to digital cameras, and the Director said that the cameras are not expensive, but the surveillance system has not been upgraded since it was installed in 2005. Director Page voiced the opinion that three (3) cameras need to be added to better cover the exterior, two (2) in the front and one (1) to the rear; she noted that the cameras do not provide a full view of the playground.

Director Page stated that the present cameras have lasted ten years (10 yrs.) so she expects the same from the new ones.

Councilmember Buckhannon stated that the plan had always been to expand the number of cameras; the only area he sees as lacking is the basketball and tennis courts, but any camera there would have to be wireless.

The only item under Capital - Special Projects is the rehabilitation of the softball, baseball and multi-purpose fields for one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000). This project involves grading, crowning as they should be, sodding and irrigation.

Items being paid from Capital Projects and tourism funds that fall under the five thousand dollar (\$5,000) capital expenditure are:

Capital Projects	
Maintenance	\$20,000
Paint porch ceiling, posts and support on Expansion	
Non-capital tools	2,650
Replace 1 laptop computer and add 2 ping pong tables	
Municipal Accommodations Fee	
Maintenance	27,500
Resurface tennis & basketball courts	
State Accommodations Tax	
Special Activities	48,000
Sponsorships of IOP Beach Run and IOP Connector Run, Holiday Street Festival, music event, Easter Egg Hunt, Sand Sculpting Contest and cultural arts event.	

In the Recreation Building Fund, revenues are estimated to be twelve thousand five hundred dollars (\$12,500) in a donation from the Connector Run and registration fees for the IOP Beach Run; expenses are eight thousand dollars (\$8,000) related to the Beach Run.

Councilmember Buckhannon asked when the courts were last resurfaced; Director Page has looked back through her files and found that the last resurfacing was five years (5 yrs.) ago. She indicated that she had wanted to go six years (6 yrs.) before doing it again, but they are in need of attention this budget year. She provided pictures of the cracked courts that prove there are trip hazards on the courts today; the paint is peeling and there are cracks in the concrete.

Administrator Tucker directed the Committee's attention to the new tool for the Committee – the sheet that takes the Department's operating budget, spreads it through the funding sources and indicates the percentage of the operating budget paid by the various funds.

Councilmember Harrington questioned the fact that there are no expenditures for the Recreation Department being paid from the Hospitality Fund; the Administrator responded that staff had continued with its tradition of not assigning Recreation Department activities to that fund. If it is the will of this Committee or Council to expense items from Hospitality Funds, the change will be made as long as the City could support the fact that a portion of that function was tourism-related. The Councilmember recalled that the statement had been made that many off-islanders use the Recreation Department facilities; therefore, he reasoned that a larger percentage of the Department's expenses could be funded through tourism funds.

Councilmember Buckhannon said that he was not familiar with the restrictions on Hospitality Fees or Municipal Accommodations Taxes, but he knew there were some. According to the Administrator, the primary stipulation is that the use is tourism-related; for these funds, the decisions rest with the Committee and Council not an outside agency, like State Accommodations Taxes, and the City does not have to defend those decisions to an oversight committee like must be done with State ATAX.

7. Miscellaneous Business

Next Meeting Date: 5:00 p.m., Monday, April 7, 2014 in the Conference Room.

8. Adjournment

MOTION: Councilmember Buckhannon moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:57 p.m.; Councilmember Harrington seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted:

Marie Copeland
City Clerk