

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

5:45 p.m., January 15, 2008

The regular meeting of the Ways and Means Committee was held at 5:45 p.m. on Tuesday, January 14, 2008 in Council Chambers, 1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, South Carolina. Present were Mayor Sottile, Council members Bettelli, Buchannon, Cronin, Duffy, Loftus (arrived 10 minutes late), Piening, and Taylor, as well as City Treasurer Suggs, Assistant to the Administrator Dziuban and City Clerk Copeland. Councilwoman Rice's absence was excused.

1. **Call to Order.** Councilman Taylor 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: Councilman Bettelli moved to elect Councilman Taylor as Chair of the Ways and Means Committee and to elect Councilman Cronin as Vice Chair; Councilman Buckhannon seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

MOTION: Councilman Bettelli moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of November 19, 2007 as submitted; Mayor Sottile seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. **Citizens' Comments** – none.

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

Treasurer Suggs began her comments by reporting that revenues and expenses were where they should be for this time of year. She then took a few minutes to explain for the new Council members the format the financial handouts take. She remarked that, since the City makes its debt payment once or twice a year, the 20% of budget for General Government should be considered with that fact; once the debt payments are made, the percentages will level out. The Treasurer also reported that, as in years past, the City had received an advance of \$700,000 from the County in anticipation of property tax receipts.

On the financial data provided for Fire Station #2, she related that there was \$329,744 remaining bond proceeds that will be used to make the next payment on the Bond.

Councilman Duffy asked at what price had Fire Station #2 been completed; Treasurer Suggs informed him that the figure was \$3,495,000.

6. **Old Business** – None

7. **New Business**

A. **Recommendations from ATAX Committee**

1. **\$2,000 for Easter Egg Hunt**
2. **\$2,500 for Piccolo Spoleto Sand Sculpting Competition**
3. **\$7,000 for Piccolo Spoleto Goes to the Beach**
4. **\$5,500 for Isle of Palms Beach Run**

Assistant Dziuban noted that these requests were for events that have been held on the island in the past. The requests for Items 1 and 2 were at the same level as 2007 while Items 3 and 4 were actually reduced from 2007.

MOTION: Mayor Sottile moved to approve all four (4) requests; Councilman Bettelli seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councilman Cronin remarked that the requests indicate the anticipated results to the City of each event, but the Council never receives any feedback on the actual results. He was of the opinion that after each event, the Council should receive quantifiable data as to whether or not the goals were met. Councilman Buckhannon stated that such information is reviewed by the Recreation Committee for events sponsored by the Recreation Department and that he would be happy to provide that data to Council.

B. **Recommendations from Real Property Advisory Committee**

1. **Approval of continued monitoring of bulkhead by Zande-Jon Guerry Taylor on an every other month basis and costs not to exceed \$10,000**

Assistant Dziuban informed the Committee that each monitoring would cost approximately \$2,500; therefore, the City will have four (4) monitorings over eight (8) months for the ten thousand dollars (\$10,000).

Councilman Cronin reported that Zande-Jon Guerry Taylor had suggested monthly monitoring in a letter dated May 2007. Since then there has been no monitoring and since the scope of the project has not yet been determined, Councilman Cronin stated his opinion that it was imperative to continue this service.

MOTION: Councilman Cronin moved to continue monitoring of the bulkhead by Zande-Jon Guerry Taylor on an every other month basis with costs not to exceed \$10,000 that will come from the Marina Fund; Councilman Bettelli seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. Approval of 50% participation with Marina Market for the upgrade and enlargement of public restrooms in Marina store with costs not to exceed \$40,000

Councilman Cronin explained that the proposal is to remove the laundry from the marina store doubling the size of the public restrooms and that this is a project that the City has been planning where it would be required to pay 100% of the cost. He added that there is \$75,000 allocated in the budget for this task.

MOTION: Councilman Cronin moved to approve 50% participation with Marina Market for the upgrade and enlargement of public restrooms at the marina store with costs not to exceed \$40,000; Councilman Bettelli seconded.

Councilman Loftus asked who would manage the project, and Council Cronin replied that Marina Market would manage it.

Call for the question: The motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mayor Sottile asked that the City Council study the bulkhead replacement project very carefully as they go through the budget process. Councilman Bettelli informed the Council that the Real Property Advisory Committee had requested from Zande-Jon Guerry Taylor estimates of the costs of the full scope of the project to be accompanied by their suggestions on phasing and time frames involved. Councilman Cronin advised Council that Marina Manager Berrigan had stated that the City can delay the dock and electrical replacement.

C. Review of Beach Renourishment Schedule

Assistant Dziuban informed the Committee that Charleston County had requested a yellow sheet on the renourishment project for the County Council Finance Committee meeting of February 4.

She also reported that Tim Kana of Coastal Science and Engineering wanted more concrete data before providing a schedule.

8. Miscellaneous

Chairman Taylor directed everyone's attention to the Budget Schedule and advised the new Council members that the coming weeks would be very intense.

Councilman Loftus asked if the Consolidated Dispatch with Charleston County would change the scope of the Public Safety Building. Councilman Taylor suggested a meeting with Cole+Russell to familiarize the new Council members with the details of the Public Safety Building. Councilman Bettelli cautioned the Council that 2012 is a target date for the Consolidated Dispatch; there could be delays or the concept may not work out.

9. **Executive Session, if needed - none**
10. **MOTION: With no further business to come before the Committee, Councilman Cronin moved to adjourn at 6:25 p.m.; Councilman Bettelli seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Respectfully submitted:

Marie Copeland