

WAYS and MEANS COMMITTEE

5:30 p.m., Tuesday, June 23, 2015

The regular meeting of the Ways and Means Committee was called to order at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, June 23, 2015 in Council Chambers of City Hall, 1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, South Carolina. Attending the meeting were Councilmembers Bergwerf, Bettelli, Buckhannon, Carroll, Ferencz, Harrington, Loftus and Ward, Mayor Cronin, City Administrator Tucker, Treasurer Suggs, Assistant 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.

2. Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes

MOTION: Councilmember Bettelli moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 19, 2015 as submitted; Councilmember Carroll seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. **Citizens' Comments** – None

4. **Financial Statements** – Treasurer Debbie Suggs

A. Financial Statement

At May 31, 2015, the City had completed eleven (11) months of the fiscal year, and the target for revenue and expenditures in the General Fund was ninety-two percent (92%). General Fund revenues were at eighty-seven percent (87%) of budget and expenditures were at ninety-one percent (91%) of budget. Property Tax revenue was at ninety-nine percent (99%) of budget with May and June collections yet to be received; the Treasurer anticipates ending the year on-budget. Three (3) months remain to be collected in Local Option Sales Taxes; therefore, the Treasurer opined that revenue would meet or exceed budget. Revenue from Business Licenses, Rental Licenses and Building Permits have exceeded the FY15 budget. The Treasurer reported that the City had received sixty-two thousand dollars (\$62,000) in insurance credits; twenty-two thousand dollars (\$22,000) for workers compensation and the balance of forty-thousand dollars (\$40,000) for property and liability coverage. Cash on-hand equaled twenty-seven percent (27%) of General Fund budgeted expenditures.

B. Tourism Funds

Treasurer Suggs stated that the April 2015 Municipal Accommodations Fee collections include the one-time payment of fifty-two thousand five hundred dollars (\$52,500) for the Isle of Palms' portion of the settlement with the on-line travel companies; for May the City received approximately eighty-two thousand dollars (\$82,000). The Municipal Accommodations Fee collections are running fifteen percent (15%) ahead of the same period in FY14.

The City has not received the last collection from State ATAX or the Charleston County Accommodations Tax Pass-through.

May was a strong month for Hospitality Tax collections with approximately fifty-nine thousand four hundred dollars (\$59,400) collected from twenty-eight (28) taxpayers. These collections are twelve percent (12%) greater than the same period in FY14.

Beach Preservation Fee collections for May totaled eight-one thousand four hundred three dollars (\$81,403), bringing the total collected to-date to approximately one hundred sixty-one thousand dollars (\$161,000).

C. Project Status

For the shoal management project, the expenditures were for professional services for Coastal Science and Engineering and for legal services provided by the City Attorney. Budget remaining for the fall 2015 project are two hundred thirty-seven thousand dollars (\$237,000).

From the Parking Management and Wayfinding Signs, the final payment on this contract was paid to Stantec.

5. Old Business

Status of Parking Concept C

Administrator Tucker informed the Committee that the City has received approval from SCDOT for parking Concept C; among the next steps are the signage plan, sign installation, the credentialing of residents and passage of certain ordinances.

6. New Business

A. From the Public Safety Committee, a recommendation for a contract award in the amount of \$12,920 to Stantec for Task 2, the signage plan for Concept C (FY16 Budget, page 24, \$43,537 in MUNI ATAX, Street Signs) and Task 3 in the amount of \$2,850 for signage for Mayor Carmen R. Bunch Park, (FY16 Budget, page 23, \$30,000 in MUNI ATAX, General Government Capital Outlay) from the Proposal Dated May 27, 2015

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to award a contract, as detailed above, to Stantec; Councilmember Bettelli seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. From the Real Property Committee, recommendation for a contract award in the amount of \$177,304 to Coastal Science and Engineering for Beach Monitoring Surveys for 2015-2017 (FY16 Budget, page 46, \$70,000 in Capital Projects, Beach Restoration, Special Projects)

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to award a contract to CSE for the monitoring of the City's beach for FY15-17; Councilmember Bergwerf seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- C.** Award of a contract in the amount of \$13,061.85 to Asphalt Concepts for street-prints at 21st, 25th and 28th Avenues (FY15 Budget, page 35, \$31,000 in MUNI ATAX, General Government, Maintenance and Service)

The Mayor explained that this contract was being awarded retroactively because the work has already been done.

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to award a contract in the amount of \$13,061.85 to Asphalt Concepts for street-prints at 21st, 25th and 28th Avenues; Councilmember Loftus seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councilmember Loftus stated that he had heard complaints about the timing of the work.

D. Discussion of display of cannonball, funding available in State ATAX FY15 and FY16 Miscellaneous

For those who did know the story, Mayor Cronin recounted that, during the 2008 renourishment project and at a time when the dredgers were two and a half (2.5) miles off-shore, a cannonball was pulled up, carried through the pipe and spewed out onto the beach. The work stopped immediately and the bomb squad was called to learn whether the cannonball was solid or contained an explosive. Once it was deemed not to be a threat, the ball was brought to the City who donated it to the Fort Moultrie historical site on Sullivan's Island; a couple of years ago, the rangers from the Fort contacted the City to say they had enough cannonballs and were ready for the City to regain possession of it. When it was brought back to the City, it sat for several months on the floor here in Council Chambers until Assistant Dziuban found someone in Mount Pleasant who could and would restore it. The restoration process was very similar to that of the restoration of *The Hunley* and has taken two (2) years to complete. Now it is coming back to the City, and the City must decide what will be done. Decisions to be made are where to display it, would it be inside or outside, and would it be covered or uncovered; the City also could offer it to Wild Dunes for their display since it was dredged onto their beach.

Mayor Cronin stated that he would offer it to Wild Dunes with the provision that it would be their responsibility for pay for the display; the City would provide the history to accompany it. If they decline the offer, it would again be up for Council to determine its fate.

Councilmember Carroll noted that, of the City buildings, the Recreation Center had the most traffic, both residents and visitors.

Since the lobby at the Public Safety Building was going to be enhanced, Councilmember Ferencz suggested that the cannonball could be displayed there.

Administrator Tucker commented that the Public Safety Building got very little walk-in traffic.

Both Councilmembers Bettelli and Bergwerf supported having the display at the Recreation Center.

Responding to Councilmember Ward's question about the source of funds in the budget, Administrator Tucker stated that funds were available in both the FY15 and FY16 State ATAX budget line-item Miscellaneous.

MOTION: Councilmember Carroll moved to display the cannonball at the Recreation Center and to take the necessary funds from State ATAX Miscellaneous; Councilmember Bergwerf seconded.

Councilmember Loftus stated that he would like for the cannonball to be displayed without a cover to allow children to touch it.

Assistant Dziuban related her conversation with the restorer who informed her that, if the cannon-ball were to be displayed without a cover, it would likely require annual maintenance since it would begin to deteriorate again.

VOTE: The motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. Miscellaneous Business

Next Meeting Date: 5:45 p.m., Tuesday, July 21, 2015 in Council Chambers

8. Executive Session – unnecessary

9. Adjourn

MOTION: Councilmember Carroll moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:58 p.m.; Councilmember Bergwerf seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted:

Marie Copeland
City Clerk