April 12, 2011

The regular meeting of Town Council was held on the above date at Town Hall, all requirements of the Freedom of Information Act having been satisfied:

Present were: Mike Perkis, Mayor Pro-Tem  
Buddy Howle, Councilman  
Jerry Kaynard, Councilman  
Madeleine McGee, Councilwoman  
Patrick O’Neil, Councilman  
Mary Jane Watson, Councilwoman

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Pro-Tem Perkis, followed by the invocation by Councilman Howle. There were ten members in the audience and one member of the media present.

Mayor Pro-Tem Perkis presented Employee of the First Quarter 2011 to Darrell Noisette of the Water and Sewer Department.

The floor was opened for comments from the citizens. John Winchester, 2720 Brook, recommended revisiting the decision to place the temporary Town Hall near his house. He stated there was no notification to residents in the area, and believed other sites should be considered. Cammie Camp, 2672 Middle St, agreed and added that the use is not in the land use plan, and there is no plan for the next phase of Town Hall. She proposed for Council to authorize more funds be spent if necessary to put the temporary Town Hall in the right place. Joanne Winchester, 2720 Brook read a letter on behalf of Christine and Charlie Hamerick, 2708 Brook St. Wayne Guckenburger, 2105 Pettigrew stated his property is in Unit 3C of the Accreted Land Management Plan, and believes it should be in another unit. Councilman O’Neil stated that the dividing lines were drawn by the consultant, and there is no sharp division line. Councilman Kaynard reminded Mr. Guckenburger to attend the next accreted land meeting on May 5 and 6. Jim Lancto, 405 Station 12, presented additional information concerning the improvements to the Island Club. Mr. Lancto will meet with Building Official Randy Robinson, and Mr. Robinson will present their plans to Council. Will Post, 1907 I’on Avenue, expressed his concern about a road planned between his property and Battery Gadsden. Councilman Perkis stated there is no change to the physical structure or egress to Battery Gadsden. There is a road being proposed by the school.

Mayor Pro-tem Perkis read a letter submitted by Billy Craver expressing his approval of the Town Hall trailers temporarily moving to the Station 27 site. Mayor Pro-tem Perkis stated he feels the justification of the decision was right; however, communicating in a timely matter to the neighbors did not happen. He proposed to defer the decision to move trailers on the property for 2-3 weeks in order to give Council the time to educate the neighbors; give neighbors an opportunity to research other possible
sites; and Council time to make sure another option was not missed. Councilwoman McGee agreed with deferring it and having an end date for it. The process for a long-term decision also needs to begin. Residents should submit new ideas regarding the temporary location of Town Hall to Administrator Benke by April 19, and a meeting to discuss the issue with residents will be held on April 26, 2011 at 6 p.m.

Motion was made by Councilman Howle, seconded by Councilwoman Watson to approve minutes from the regular meeting on March 15, 2011 and the special meeting on April 4, 2011, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman O'Neil, seconded by Councilman Howle, to approve a Resolution Supporting Efforts to Encourage Motorists to Voluntarily limit Unnecessary Idling of Motor Vehicles When the Ben Sawyer Bridge Is Open For Waterway Traffic, carried unanimously.

Reports and Communications

General and New Correspondence – Correspondence was received from Jules & Patty Burgevin, Dr. Dan Wilde, John Winchester, Katherine Guckenberger, Chauncey Clark, Rochelle Rutledge, Billy Craver, Tom and Haskell Carr, Christine and Charley Hamrick and Bobby Cummings.

Attorney Report – no report

Board and Commission Reports – Planning Commission Hal Currey stated the Planning Commission met with the Design Review Board and will discuss at their next monthly meeting.

Administrator’s Report, Administrator Benke.

Civil Action Against the Town of Sullivan’s Island and Sullivan’s Island Town Council - The Town is responding to the Fifth Request to Produce, and has received a Sixth Request to Produce.

Town Hall Repairs – This was discussed earlier in the meeting.

Sullivan’s Island Elementary School – This will be discussed in Executive Session tonight.

Cell Tower Hardware Addition – The Town Attorney will work on negotiations with American Tower for the addition.

Sesquicentennial Commemoration of the War Between the States – There have been and will continue to be activities during the commemoration beginning April 9, 2011.

Run for Adela – The annual charity race occurred on the beach on April 9, 2011 with 734 participants.

Harbor Fest Kite Regatta – The staff is working on details with the race committee for the sailors to launch and beach east of 28-1/2 Street.

Myrtle Avenue Cemetery – Monsignor Lawrence McInerny has concluded preliminary design work at the Myrtle Avenue Cemetery with a landscape architect. Monsignor, Chief Stith and Administrator Benke will meet with the property owners in the area.
Motion was made by Councilman Kaynard, seconded by Councilman Howle, to amend the agenda to add two items to the Executive Session: civil action against the Town and Town Council, and a contractual matter regarding lease on Town Hall, carried unanimously.

Ways and Means Committee, Councilman Perkis. Monthly report rendered. Councilman Perkis noted that the March financials would not be available for this meeting because of the adjusted earlier meeting date due to the holidays. A proposed budget timeline was discussed.

Personnel Committee, Councilman Kaynard. Monthly report rendered. The Fire Department has one full time fire fighter position open, and the Maintenance Department has one full time maintenance position open. A resolution was presented by Mayor Pro-tem Perkis to Darrell Noisette of the Water and Sewer Department in recognition as Employee of the Quarter.

Water and Sewer Committee, Councilman Perkis. Monthly reports rendered. The Water and Sewer Committee will meet on April 25, 2011 to review the FY2012 budget, capital projects and SCDOT paving projects.


Recreation Committee, Councilwoman Watson. The Park Foundation met and she will distribute minutes of their meeting at a future date. The Bicycle Advisory Committee met on April 11th and Carlson Huey assumed the chair duties from Ward Lassoe. The Committee is working on bike racks, a recreation trail, and a scavenger hunt on bikes. The Bike to Work Day will be on May 20, 2011. Participants can meet at Café Medley and bike to work. A Mount Pleasant resident has donated a doll house for use in the Tot Lot playground at Station 20-1/2 Street.

Real Estate Committee, Councilman O’Neil. Accredited Land Management Plan (ALMP) Councilman O’Neil is preparing the edited plan of the ALMP Section One and Task 7, containing the comments of Council members. Council will tour Zones Two and Four on Thursday, May 5 beginning at 6:15 pm at Town Hall. Council will hold a workshop at Town Hall on Friday, May 6 beginning at 2:30 pm to begin discussion and construction of the ALMP for Zones Two and Four.

Sullivan’s Island Gadsden Cultural Center Lease – The lease agreement with the Sullivan’s Island Gadsden Cultural Center is due to expire on June 30, 2011. Mayor
Smith has an action plan, and this will be discussed at the next meeting when the Mayor is present.

Battery Logan Lease – An Island business has expressed an interest in pursuing the lease agreement with Battery Logan. Councilwoman McGee expressed her willingness to pursue this avenue, although the consensus of Council was to deny the proposed lease agreement.

Sullivan's Island Recycle Station – Judge Michael Molony has requested the Town petition Charleston County for a recycle station at or near the Fire Station. Chief Stith stated that there is a container that holds aluminum cans. Councilwoman Watson stated she would look into recycle bins at the school.

Thomson Memorial Park Exhibit – The S.C. Department of Transportation has given approval of the boundary encroachment permit. It is going through the design stage.

Open Space Protection for Town Parcels – Attorney Dodds is meeting with the Mt. Pleasant Land Conservancy.

Island Club Structural Improvements – This was discussed tonight during public comments.


BellSouth Telecommunications Inc. Switch Gear – BellSouth/AT&T is requesting an easement to place a 10' x 10' switch gear box on Town property in front of the Fire Station. Administrator Benke met with representatives today and an alternate site was selected next to the steps at the Fire Station. A lease will be prepared for Attorney Dodds to review.

Police Committee, Mayor Smith. Monthly report rendered. The Police Committee meeting scheduled for April 11 will be rescheduled. Chief Howard stated there were no problems with the Sesquicentennial celebration.

Streets and Maintenance Committee, Councilwoman McGee.

Middle Street Resurfacing and Stormwater Pipe Project – The S.C. Department of Transportation contractor for Middle Street has completed all asphalt and curb and gutter work for the project. Final striping and crosswalks are anticipated during the third or fourth week of April 2011. The field at Middle Street and Station 17 Street will now be on the list of possibilities for temporary relocation of Town Hall. The staff has advised Banks Construction to schedule the sidewalk repair and replacement. Motion was made by Councilwoman McGee, seconded by Councilman Howle, to resolve to authorize $42,000 for sidewalk improvements as previously discussed, to come from the Hospitality Fund, carried unanimously.

Ben Sawyer Bridge Project – The final inspection of the bridge was held on April 7, 2011. The S.C. Department of Transportation anticipates delivery as early as May 2, 2011.

Streets and Maintenance Committee Meeting Minutes – Councilwoman McGee presented the minutes from the February 17, 2011 Committee meeting.

Stormwater Pump Station 18 Street – The Town continues to await further comment from the residents.
Managed Parking Public Meeting – The Administrator will be working with a consultant in the coming months to establish an evaluation plan for the concept of paid parking.

Mayor Pro-Tem Perkis duly ratified Ordinance No. 2011-01, An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 20 Water Supply Section 20-12, to Add Language for Customer Appeal Process for Denied Leak Adjustments.

Mayor Pro-Tem Perkis duly ratified Ordinance No. 2011-02, An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 20 Water Supply Section 20-14-1, to Allow Water Rates to be Amended and Implemented During a Drought as Recommended from the 2009 Rate Study.

Motion was made by Councilman O‘Neil, seconded by Councilman Kaynard, to have go into Executive Session at 8:15 pm for a Contractual matter regarding Sullivan’s Island Elementary School, the Civil Action regarding lawsuit against the Town and Town Council, and a lease matter concerning the lease on Town Hall, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman Howle, seconded by Councilwoman Watson, to come out of Executive Session at 9:30 pm, carried unanimously. Mayor Pro-Tem Perkis stated no action or votes were taken during Executive Session.

Motion was made by Councilman O‘Neil, seconded by Councilman Howle, to adjourn at 9:33 pm, carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

\[Signature\]
Ellen Miller