April 16, 2013

The regular meeting of Town Council was held on the above date at 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall, all requirements of the Freedom of Information Act having been satisfied:

Present were: Carl Smith, Mayor
Mike Perkis, Mayor Pro Tem
Hartley Cooper, Councilwoman
Jerry Kaynard, Councilman
Madeleine McGee, Councilwoman
Patrick O’Neil, Councilman
Mary Jane Watson, Councilwoman

Mayor Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance; followed by the prayer by Councilwoman Watson. There were 15 citizens in the audience.

Mayor Smith opened the floor for public comment. John Evans, Jr. presented to Council a plan to allow motorcyclists to ride through Sullivan’s Island as part of the Lowcountry Fire House Poker Run to benefit the Carolina Children’s Charity. The motorcyclists would come around 2:30pm on June 2, 2013 to the Fire Station, then back to Middle Street and turn to cross the Ben Sawyer Bridge. Mr. Evans has discussed with the Police and Fire Chiefs. Council approved this request.
Wayne Stelljes, 3104 I’on Avenue, commented on commercial activity on Town property, and stated the rules need to be consistent for all. In addition, weddings on the beach need to be revisited.

Councilwoman Cooper joined the meeting at this time.

Mark Howard, 1820 Central Avenue, commented that Council should consider all-in-one recycle containers that Kiawah Island uses which are green and half-size of the blue containers to be delivered to Sullivan’s Island. Mayor Smith and Councilman O’Neil stated that the container size is related to the truck that picks them up, and Charleston County provides the containers. Mr. Howard also asked for Council to review the Master Plan of the entire area when considering the new Town Hall.
Councilwoman Watson responded that she has a proposal to share with Council tonight.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Motion was made by Councilman O’Neil, seconded by Councilwoman Watson, to approve the Minutes from the Regular Meeting on March 19, 2013, carried unanimously.

II. COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS
1. There was no motion to have First Reading of Ordinance No. 2013-02, An Ordinance to Amend Section 21-20 of the Zoning Ordinance regarding attached structures.
2. Motion was made by Councilman Perkis, seconded by Councilwoman Cooper, to have First Reading of Ordinance No. 2013-04, An Ordinance to Adopt Budget for July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014, carried unanimously.

3. Motion was made by Councilman Kaynard, seconded by Councilwoman Cooper, to have Second Reading and Ratification of Ordinance No. 2013-03, An Ordinance for the Sale of Town Owned Real Property in the Town of Sullivan’s Island, carried unanimously.

III. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

General and New Correspondence – No correspondence.

Attorney Report - No report.

Boards and Commissions – No reports.

Administrator’s Report, Mayor Smith.

2012-2013 Trimming and Pruning Season – There were 44 trimming and pruning permits issued during the 2012-2013 season. No violations were reported.

Municipal Election Commission – Draft minutes of their April 15, 2013 meeting were presented, specifically noting that during the meeting, a motion was unanimously approved that all cast votes, write-in votes and absentee votes be counted for the May 7, 2013 Municipal Election.

Ways and Means Committee, Councilman Perkis. Monthly report rendered. Councilman Perkis highlighted points of interest in the March financial report. These included that revenue from business licenses and building permits combined are still exceeding revenue as of the same time last year by a considerable amount. The Sewer Fund’s sludge disposal expense has exceeded the budgeted amount for the year due to the significant amount of rain in the past few months.

Personnel Committee, Councilman Kaynard. Monthly report rendered. The Zoning Administrator position will be discussed in Executive Session tonight. There are three current openings – the Zoning Administrator and two Beach Services officer positions.

Water and Sewer Committee, Councilman Perkis. Monthly reports rendered. Manager Gress will visit a Georgia facility to look at their grouting process. The Water and Sewer FY14 budget was distributed to Council as information for discussion at the next Council workshop on May 6. First Reading of that budget can occur at the May 21 meeting of Council. Councilman Perkis stated the big impact on this budget will be the invoice from Charleston Water System for a booster pump located in West Ashley. Councilman Kaynard will review the contract to determine why it would affect Sullivan’s Island.

Building and Construction Committee, Councilwoman Cooper. Monthly report rendered. Presentations for the new Town Hall construction project were heard on April 12, 2013 from Creech &
Associates, Stubbs Muldrow and Herrin, and McMillan Pazdan Smith. The Sullivan’s Island Elementary School construction project is on schedule with no changes.

**Fire Committee, Mayor Smith.** Monthly report rendered. No new activity to report.

**Recreation Committee, Councilwoman Watson.** The Park Foundation had its fundraiser this past Saturday. The funds raised are being calculated; tickets sales and expenses were slightly down, and the sponsorship increased. Councilwoman Watson thanked the Fire Department for their assistance with the preparations of the event.

**Budget -** Councilwoman Watson presented the fiscal year 2014 Recreation budget request. The tennis courts between Citadel Avenue and Artillery Street are in poor condition. The Park Foundation explored two options – leave the courts at the current site, or build courts in Stith Park behind the large play structure. She presented the cost estimate, and stated the Park Foundation prefers the concept of one campus location for the tennis courts at Stith Park. Council members O’Neil and McGee, as well as Mayor Smith, suggested considering to disperse the recreation locations rather than centralize. Councilman Kaynard suggested surveying the neighbors for their opinion. The Recreation Committee will meet to further discuss.

**Real Estate Committee, Councilman O’Neil.** The Planning Commission has suggested that Council review Section 17-3 of the Code to address a residency requirement for Planning Commission members. Attorney Dodds will address this topic in Executive Session tonight. Town Administrator Benke has inquired to the Lowcountry Open Land Trust as to the removal of invasive species plants, but has not yet received a response.

**Police Committee, Mayor Smith.** Monthly report rendered. The Police Committee met on April 15, 2013, one item of discussion was the St. Patrick’s Day event permit. Mayor Smith stated the crowd at the St. Patrick’s Day event was rowdy and disrespectful. The Police Committee recommended limiting St. Patrick’s Day event to only one day; and Chief Howard suggested that the event hours be concluded by nightfall. Captain McDaniel stated to continue to review the entire plan, because the same man hours will be used. Councilman Perkis responded that if the restaurants’ business potential is limited to a one-day event, but the same Town resources are used, some businesses may not want to continue to pay the same fee to the Town; therefore the event may no longer take place. **Motion was made by Councilwoman McGee, seconded by Councilman O’Neil, to limit permits for the St. Patrick’s Day event to March 17th, and that the Police Committee meet again with residents and commercial property owners to review the specifics of how to implement that, carried unanimously.** Businesses and residents will be notified, especially residents adjacent to the business district.

**Streets and Maintenance Committee, Councilwoman McGee.** No new activity to report.

**Motion was made by Councilman Kaynard, seconded by Councilman O’Neil, to amend the agenda to add legal advice on residency requirements to the Executive Session, carried unanimously.**
Motion was made by Councilman O’Neil, seconded by Councilman Perkis, to go into Executive Session for (1) legal advice – Contractual, Low Country Open Land Trust and Commercial Activity; (2) legal advice – Contractual, American Tower Lease Agreement; (3) legal advice – Contractual, Town Hall Design Architect; (4) legal advice – residency requirements; and (5) personnel matter – Zoning Administrator Position, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman O’Neil, seconded by Councilwoman McGee, to come out of Executive Session, carried unanimously.

Mayor Smith stated that no action or votes were taken during Executive Session. Motion was made by Councilman Kaynard, seconded by Councilwoman Cooper, to offer the position of Zoning Administrator to Joseph Henderson, carried unanimously.

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was unanimously adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Miller