August 16, 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: Carl J. Smith, Mayor
   Mike Perkis, Mayor Pro Tem
   Hartley Cooper, Councilwoman
   Jerry Kaynard, Councilman
   Madeleine McGee, Councilwoman
   Patrick O’Neil, Councilman
   Mary Jane Watson, Councilwoman

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Smith, followed by the invocation by Councilwoman Watson. There were seven members in the audience and no members of the media present.

The floor was opened for comments from the citizens. Patrick Rutledge, 1764 Atlantic Avenue, stated he was concerned about the trash left around his home and the beach paths by visitors. Chief Howard has been researching how residents can help assist the Police department. Other suggestions were having an Island clean-up committee after big weekends; having the County help the Town after big weekends; experiment with signage at two beach paths stating to deposit trash in containers (or take with you if they are full) and the fine associated with littering violations.

Motion was made by Councilman Kaynard, seconded by Councilman O’Neil, to approve Minutes from the Regular meeting on July 19, 2011, Special meetings on August 1, 2011, June 6, 2011, May 25, 2011 and May 20, 2011, carried unanimously.

Reports and Communications

Motion was made by Councilman Kaynard, seconded by Councilwoman Watson, to approve a Resolution to Approve and Support Town Safety Policies, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman Kaynard, seconded by Councilman Perkis, to approve a Resolution to Support Public Participation Policy for Boards and Commissions. After discussion, the motion was withdrawn. The Personnel Committee will review this information again. Motion was made by Councilman O’Neil, seconded by Councilman Kaynard, to defer this resolution, carried unanimously.
Motion was made by Councilman O'Neil, seconded by Councilman Kaynard, to approve a Resolution Honoring Dr. George G. Durst, Sr., carried unanimously.

General and New Correspondence – Correspondence was received from Charles Daniel Hawks of Tennessee, thanking a police office and firefighter that helped him during this visit; Brenda Byrd thanking the Town for use of the handicapped beach chair; and Mary Pringle regarding the sea turtles. Sullivan’s Island had three nests this year; Isle of Palms had 41 nests.

Attorney Report – No report.

Board and Commission Reports – Planning Commission Chairman Hal Currey reported that the Overlay Ordinance is ready for a public hearing to be held on September 14, 2011 before their regular meeting. A notice will be placed on the water bill, advertisement in newspaper, and a specific letter to property owners in commercial district.

Administrator’s Report, Administrator Benke.
Heart Walk 2011 – The Town will participate in the American Heart Association Heart Walk on September 17, 2011.
Station 12 Street Dock – The tenant at Station 12 Street dock is requesting that he be allowed to install power and water to the dock. SCE&G estimates approximately $2100.00 for power service and tenant has only recently applied for an estimate for water service.
Anti-Idling Campaign – Based on the rejection of the two previously suggested signs, Dr. Thiedke is reviewing other options. The Town must submit an encroachment permit.
Sullivan’s Island Park Traffic – A resident has forwarded correspondence regarding loading and unloading by visitors of the park and soccer field. While the lacrosse season has ended for now, Chief Howard will reach out to the coaches and advise that parking and disembarkation/embarkation must be contained at Battery Thompson.
Myrtle Avenue Cemetery – Following a meeting with residents contiguous to the cemetery and discussion of site enhancements, Monsignor Lawrence McInerny revised design work to the Myrtle Avenue Cemetery with a landscape architect. He will take the plan approved by Council and review with the cemetery committee and neighbors.

Ways and Means Committee, Councilman Perkis. Monthly Report rendered. The relocation expenses for Town Hall at the end of July 2011 were about $148,000. The Town has spent twice as much to not move to the residential area originally proposed at Station 27 Street. The July financial statement will be the first
financial statement placed on the Town’s website. Councilwoman McGee suggested to include a description of what some of the funds are, such as the William Bradley Memorial Fund and the Confederate Memorial Fund.

**Personnel Committee**, Councilman Kaynard. The S.I.R.E.N.S. (Sullivan’s Island Remote Emergency Notification System) is operational. **Motion was made by Councilman Kaynard, seconded by Councilwoman Cooper, to adopt the policy criteria for S.I.R.E.N.S., carried unanimously.** Testing will occur the first Saturday of every month at noon. The initial formal testing will occur on Saturday, August 20, 2011 at noon. The system is also being coordinated with the NIXLE program as well as Reverse 911. The Personnel Committee voted to establish a Wellness Committee at their July 28th committee meeting. This item was discussed at the Council Committee meeting on August 1, 2011, but Council took no formal vote. **Motion was made by Councilman Kaynard, seconded by Councilwoman Watson, to adopt a Wellness Committee to be comprised of Councilman Kaynard, Councilwoman Watson, Councilwoman Cooper, Administrator Benke and Assistant to Administrator Darrow, carried unanimously.** Council will hold a Strategic Planning Session on January 28, 2012.

**Water and Sewer Committee**, Councilman Perkis. Monthly reports rendered. The fire hydrant at Station 28-1/2 Street and Ion Avenue that was hit by a car has been repaired.

**Building and Construction Committee**, Councilwoman Cooper. The Committee will coordinate with the Real Estate Committee and staff regarding the process of evaluating options on the new Town Hall. The Personnel Committee discussed the zoning administrator position last week, and will continue to move forward in discussion with staff and Council regarding the position. Councilwoman Cooper, along with Water & Sewer Manager Gress, attended the S.C. Emergency Earthquake Education meeting.

**Fire Committee**, Mayor Smith. Monthly report rendered.

**Recreation Committee**, Councilwoman Watson. Reports on the Park Foundation and Bike Committee will be made after their meetings in the coming weeks. Administrator Benke has sent an RFP to seven engineers and will advertise in the paper regarding the tennis court construction.

**Real Estate Committee**, Councilman O’Neil. Sullivan’s Island Gadsden Cultural Center Lease – It will be discussed in executive session tonight. Consideration for a Permanent Town Hall – The Real Estate Committee met on July 21, 2011 to review the applicants for a needs assessment. The list was narrowed to five potential candidates, who were interviewed on August 8, 2011. The Committee recommended to Council that Creech and Associates perform the needs assessment. **Motion was made by Councilman O’Neil, seconded by Councilwoman McGee, to**
authorize the Town Administrator to begin negotiations with Creech and Associates Architects to perform a needs assessment for a permanent Town Hall, carried unanimously.

Charleston County School District Property Lease – This item is on the agenda for Executive Session tonight. The Town has submitted a lease document to Charleston County School District for review and approval. Councilman Kaynard reported that the Charleston County School Board approved the lease last night. Motion was made by Councilman O’Neil, seconded by Councilwoman McGee, to amend the agenda to have First Reading of An Ordinance to Amend the Ordinances of the Town of Sullivan’s Island, SC, Chapter 14, By Adding a New Section 34 regarding the Lease of Real Property to the Charleston County School District after Executive Session, carried unanimously.

Open Space Protection for Town Parcels - The baseline conditions study is in progress. The Town will need to take the plat to the RMC office when we have received all information. The Planning Commission has already approved the plat.

Island Club Structural Improvements – Building Official Randy Robinson reported the electrical will be repaired, not moved, for now. He has moved the handicapped ramp from the back door to the front door. There will be a handicapped accessible bathroom as soon as you come in the front door. He did not present plans tonight because his computer crashed, but will e-mail to Council.

Planning Commission – As discussed earlier this evening, there will be a Public Hearing on September 14, 2011 regarding the CC District Zoning Overlay District.

Accreted Land Management Plan – Councilman O’Neil distributed a rough draft of the Zones Two and Four of the ALMP for Council to review and send comments to Administrator Benke and Councilman O’Neil.

Police Committee, Mayor Smith. Monthly report rendered. Chief Howard is preparing for Labor Day weekend, and is asking the County for three officers to assist them.

Streets and Maintenance Committee, Councilwoman McGee.

Upcoming Meetings – A joint meeting of the Streets and Maintenance Committee and Real Estate Committee will be held on Monday, September 12, 2011 at 9 AM concerning the Greenbelt Funding and Managed Parking. Administrator Benke reported that while Howard Chapman does not want to be significantly involved with the managed parking plan; he reviewed the plan and thought it was solid as written. He did say the decision needs to be made whether to start small and branch out, or cover the entire island all at once. Administrator Benke continued that we have been capturing the volume of cars at different days and times, and the information will be ready for the September meeting.

New Sidewalks – Administrator Benke reported that Banks Construction can do the sidewalk from Station 22-1/2 Street to Station 23 Street. They do have concerns about storm water drainage in that area. Water and Sewer Manager Gress has met with Thomas & Hutton, and they will give us a price for the engineering, and those drawings can be given to Banks Construction for them to give us a cost. We will
also need an encroachment permit with DOT. Hospitality funds could be used for this project.

Department of Transportation – Administrator Benke reported that the Department of Transportation crew was supposed to be here the second week of August to work on the section of 22-1/2 Street between Jasper and Middle. We are waiting to hear from Robert Clark regarding the schedule. Water and Sewer Manager Gress did the punch list with the project manager of Middle Street resurfacing from Station 22-1/2 to Station 12. The thermoplastic lines are placed down the center of the road. We were hoping to work additional crosswalks into the project, about five or six crosswalks; however, they will probably not be able to do those crosswalks so we will need to get prices. Staff will get estimates for crosswalks with ladder (hashmarks) for the sites previously identified.

Communication – A resident was concerned about DOT starting to repave without giving notice. Administrator Benke reported that he had spoken with DOT about the incident, and they stated it will not happen again. We do not have their schedule, and even so, they do not necessarily follow the schedule. Sometimes we only get a day’s notice. In the future, when we know roadwork will be done in the next couple of months, residents will be notified through e-news that work will happen in the near future, and to please inform us if they are not notified ahead of time by DOT.

Motion was made by Councilman O’Neil, seconded by Councilman Perkis, to amend the agenda to add legal advice for BZA Procedures to Executive Session, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman O’Neil, seconded by Councilwoman Watson to go into Executive Session at 7:45 pm for Contractual – Gadsden Cultural Center Lease Agreement and Sullivan’s Island Elementary School Lease Agreement; Personnel - Boards and Commissions, and Legal Advice - BZA Procedures, carried unanimously.

Upon returning to regular session, Mayor Smith stated no action or votes were taken during Executive Session.

Motion was made by Councilman Kaynard, seconded by Councilwoman Watson, to nominate Hal Currey, Elaine Fowler, Anne Kilpatrick, and Gary Visser to the Planning Commission, carried by a vote of 6-1 with Councilwoman Cooper opposed.

Motion was made by Councilman Kaynard, seconded by Councilman O’Neil, to nominate Jon Lancto (3 year term), Kelly Messier (3 year term) and Brian Williams (for remaining portion of unexpired term of approximately 1 year) to the Design Review Board, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman Kaynard, seconded by Councilwoman Watson, to have First Reading of An Ordinance to Amend the Ordinances of the Town of Sullivan’s Island, South Carolina, Chapter 14, By Adding a New Section
regarding the Lease of Certain Real Property to the Charleston County School District, carried by a vote of 6, with Mayor Smith abstaining. Mayor Smith stated there needs to be more information on the size that is more appropriate for Sullivan’s Island.

Motion was made by Councilman Kaynard, seconded by Councilman Perkis, to request the S.C. Department of Transportation to return .11 miles on school campus (portion of State Road 2384); entering the school campus from I’on Avenue, and exiting the school campus on Atlantic Avenue to the Town of Sullivan’s Island, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman O’Neil, seconded by Councilwoman Watson, to adjourn at 8:55 pm, carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Miller