

September 15, 2009

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
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 Smith, followed by the invocation by Councilman Howle. There were 11 members in the audience including one member of the media.

Motion was made by Councilman Perkis, seconded by Councilman Howle, to amend the agenda: Ordinances, item one Ordinance 2009-06 is Third Reading; and advance the order for the audit presentation from the Ways and Means Committee to after citizen comments, carried unanimously.

The floor was opened for comments from the citizens. Rick Graham, 2201 P on Avenue, commented regarding uses in the commercial district being discussed again by Council. Councilman Kaynard and Councilwoman McGee plan to meet with the property owners in the area next week. Jeri England, manager of the Edgar Allan Poe Library, stated there will be a 20th Anniversary of Hurricane Hugo at the library on Saturday, September 19, 2009 at 10:30 a.m. Mike Jones, 844 Middle Street, stated he supports the amendment to raise the dog license fees of non-residents. Carlson Huey, 828 Middle Street, stated he would like to see dogs having more free time on the beach during the summer hours. Chard Waldorf, 3112 Marshall, stated that if the dog license fee is increasing, the beach should be made more dog-friendly. Claire Kiddle of Mount Pleasant stated that increasing the dog license fee is acceptable if the dogs are allowed more hours on the beach.

Bruce Illsley of Greene, Finney and Horton Certified Public Accountants, presented the 2008 audit. He stated that the Town received an unqualified opinion, which is the best opinion the Town can receive.

Motion was made by Councilman Howle, seconded by Councilman Howle, to approve minutes from the August 18, 2009 regular meeting, carried unanimously.

Reports and Communications

Motion was made by Councilman Perkis, seconded by Councilman Howle, to approve a Resolution to Authorize the Municipal Association of South Carolina as Agent for Setoff Debt Collection, carried unanimously.

General and New Correspondence – Correspondence was received from Arthur Smith, Robert Hood, and Governor Sanford regarding the accreted land, and from Carol and Paul Varadi regarding vacation rentals.

Attorney Report – no report

Board and Commission Reports – Susan Middaugh, Board of Zoning Appeals, thanked the two new members of the Board, Susan Romaine and Elizabeth Tezza, for attending their first meeting on such short notice.

Administrator's Report, Administrator Benke. The August DHEC report stated that all sample site locations were satisfactory. The plans for the William Thomson Memorial Park, including two benches and two or three roadside markers were reviewed. Administrator Benke gave an overview of the recent mosquito problem and stated the island is being sprayed by Charleston County. He encouraged the residents to call Charleston County Mosquito Abatement to report problems.

Ways and Means Committee, Councilman Perkis. After the first two months of the fiscal year, the financial statements look good. Bruce Illsley of Greene, Finney, and Horton presented the FY2008 audit tonight. The rate structure for short-term business licenses will be discussed at the next Committee meeting. An ordinance is introduced for first reading tonight concerning participating in the Municipal Association of South Carolina's bad debt program.

Personnel Committee, Councilman Kaynard. Monthly report rendered. Water and Sewer Department employee Tommy Bean has been recognized by a resident for helpful service with a water issue. The Town will offer regular influenza and H1N1 vaccinations this year to all employees, employee families, and Town Council.

Water and Sewer Committee, Councilman Perkis. Monthly report rendered. Councilman Perkis reported that Manager Gress is on vacation, and there are no operational issues to discuss.

Building and Construction Committee, Councilman Howle. Monthly report rendered. Building Official Robinson reported on the recent ISO evaluation. The Town is currently a Class 8, which saves homeowners approximately \$163,713 per year. The results of the recent evaluation will be available soon.

Fire Committee, Mayor Smith. Monthly report rendered. Chief Stith reported that the ISO inspection of the Fire Department resulted in moving from a Class 4 to Class 3, which is a savings to the Town. Only 1,200 fire departments in the United States are Class 3. The Water & Sewer portion of the inspection resulted in a Class 2. When the

new dispatch center is operational, the Fire Department could be a Class 2, and the Water & Sewer department a Class 1. There was discussion regarding the loud speaker siren the Town had at one time. The purpose of the siren at that time was because the Town did not use pagers. It would cost approximately \$15-20,000 for a siren system.

Recreation Committee, Councilman Kaynard for Councilwoman Watson. Councilwoman Watson met with Creative Spark, the Park Foundation and the Island Club. She will have an activity schedule at the next Committee meeting. She added that the Park Foundation is looking for board members at his time.

Real Estate Committee, Councilman O'Neil. Council will begin to review the Consultant findings, review resident input data, and construct a direction statement to the Consultant for a final management plan on September 29, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. Council discussed the protection of various Town owned parcels through easements with Mt. Pleasant Open Space. **Motion was made by Councilman Perkis, seconded by Councilwoman Watson, to look at easement opportunity and propose to enter negotiations with the Mt. Pleasant Open Space regarding parcels of the Station 18 dump site and the landing on the Sullivan's Island side of the Pitt Street bridge (near current boat landing), carried unanimously.** The document and ordinance for the Comprehensive Plan Review will have Third Reading tonight. Staff and the Consultant will meet with the S.C. Department of Transportation on September 17 for a final discussion on the concept of reverse angle parking in the Commercial District. The Planning Commission has asked Council to be specific on the intent of a public hearing for permitted and prohibited uses in the Commercial District. Council will discuss at the next Committee meeting after Councilman Kaynard and Councilwoman McGee meet with commercial district area property owners next week. Councilman O'Neil proposed a graduate student preservation project. He will contact the student to arrange a meeting with Council, possibly at the next Committee meeting.

Police Committee, Mayor Smith. Monthly report rendered. Chief Howard reported that the NIXLE program is working well.

Streets and Maintenance Committee, Councilwoman McGee. There was discussion concerning S.C. Code 61-6-1610(B); police jurisdiction on private property. The beach path/dune walk-over at Stations 16 and 25 are finished; the next to be completed is Station 29. Councilwoman McGee, Administrator Benke and Chief Stith will meet with Danny Burbage from the City of Charleston's Urban Forestry Program to discuss opportunities for the Tree Commission and the roles that tree commissions play in other communities. Councilwoman McGee will ask a SCDOT bridge crew member to update Council on the construction progress at the October Council meeting.

Ordinances

Motion was made by Councilman Perkis, seconded by Councilman O'Neil, to approve Third Reading of Ordinance 2009-06, An Ordinance Amending the

Comprehensive Plan for The Town of Sullivan’s Island, Pursuant to the 1994 State of South Carolina Comprehensive Planning Enabling Act, carried unanimously.

Mayor Smith duly ratified Ordinance 2009-07, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 17 Planning Commission by adding Section 17-11 to Allow for Staff Approval of Plats Without Subdivision, Re-subdivision, or Lot Line Changes.

Motion was made by Councilman Perkis, seconded by Councilman Howle, to have First Reading, by title only, of Ordinance 2009-08, An Ordinance to Amend Section 3-7(C) of the Ordinances for the Town of Sullivan’s Island Regarding Dog Licenses, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman O’Neil, seconded by Councilman Howle, to have First Reading, by title only, of Ordinance 2009-09, An Ordinance to Amend the Sullivan’s Island Code of Ordinances by Adding Chapter 26, Relating to the Recovery of Collection Cost as a Park of Delinquent Debts Collected Pursuant to the Setoff Debt Collection Act, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman Perkis, seconded by Councilwoman Watson, to have First Reading, by title only, of Ordinance 2009-10, An Ordinance Amending Section 10-20 of the Code of Ordinances for the Town of Sullivan’s Island to Revise Business License Fees, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman Howle, seconded by Councilman O’Neil, to go into Executive Session at 8:50 p.m. for Legal Advice – Contract Charleston County, and Contract Republic Construction, and Personnel – Discussion of Boards and Commissions (Design Review Board), carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Watson left the meeting at this time.

Motion was made by Councilman O’Neil, seconded by Councilman Howle, to come out of Executive Sessions at 9:45 p.m., carried unanimously. Mayor Smith stated that no votes or action were taken in Executive Session.

Motion was made by Councilman Kaynard, seconded by Councilman O’Neil, to reappoint Steve Herlong and Fred Reinhardt to the Design Review Board, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman O’Neil, seconded by Councilwoman McGee, that because the Design Review Board has recently completed its initial five years of functioning, Council asks the Board to review its policies, procedures and functions, and to consider its plans and needs for the future, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman Perkis, seconded by Councilman Howle, to adjourn at 9:50 p.m., carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen McQueeney