

October 20, 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  
Madeleine McGee, Councilwoman  
Patrick O'Neil, Councilman  
Mary Jane Watson, Councilwoman

The public hearing for Charleston County Community Development was postponed until the November meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Smith, followed by the invocation by Councilman Howle. There were 7 members in the audience including one member of the media.

**Motion was made by Councilman Perkis, seconded by Councilwoman Watson, to amend the agenda to move discussion regarding the Ben Sawyer Bridge construction status before general comments, carried unanimously.**

Julie Hussey, representative for Civic Communications, and Ryan Hamrick, Project Manager, PCL Civil Constructors, provided an update on the Ben Sawyer Bridge construction. Mr. Hamrick presented visuals to describe the replacement process, and Ms. Hussey stated that the channel will be closed three days before the bridge actually closes. While the exact closure dates are not yet set, it could be as early as November 13, 2009. The bridge will definitely not be closed during the time period of December 15, 2009 to January 3, 2010.

The floor was opened for comments from the citizens. Larry Middaugh, 2420 Raven, stated The Sullivan's Islanders group has organized a series of land management talks at the Ft. Moultrie Auditorium. Rochelle Rutledge, 1764 Atlantic, stated she was concerned about the health of the beaches, and asked Council to consider not changing the dog ordinance, as more dogs on the beach would bring more fecal matter to the beach. Sonny Enloe, 2220 I'on Avenue, stated he liked the amendment to the dog ordinance, as there are less dogs on the beach during the winter months.

**Motion was made by Councilman Howle, seconded by Councilwoman McGee, to approve minutes from the Special Meeting on September 8, 2009; the regular meeting on September 15, 2009 and the Special Meeting on October 5, 2009, carried unanimously.**

**Reports and Communications**

Mayor Smith presented a Resolution to Recognize and Commend Rudder Brown for Outstanding Achievement as an All-American at the USA Track and Field Junior Olympic National Track meet.

**General and New Correspondence** – Correspondence was received from Martin Perlmutter, 3030 Middle Street, regarding dog license fees and from Richard Lehr and Sharon Kahn, 2250 Iron Avenue, regarding vacation rental business license fees.

**Attorney Report** – Attorney Larry Dodds stated he had received a request for a fee simple title for 1420 Middle Street. Motion was made by Councilman O’Neil, seconded by Councilman Perkis, to approve the Fee Simple Title request for 1420 Middle Street, carried by a vote of five, with Councilwoman Watson abstaining.

**Board and Commission Reports** – No report.

**Administrator’s Report**, Administrator Benke. Staff recently concluded a review of the generator connectivity options at the various Island churches and church halls for use in the aftermath of a disaster event. SC Department of Health and Environmental Control has provided the September 2009 beach sampling report for Sullivan’s Island and all sample results were satisfactory. Regular flu vaccinations were available to Council, Staff, and their families on October 14, 2009. The three East Cooper Mayors will hold a press conference on October 21, 2009 to announce the pandemic planning effort and mutual aid compact. Cub Scout Pack 59 is learning about compasses, directions, and aid to hiking. The Pack recently participated in a worldwide hiking treasure hunt game called “geo-cashing”. Council approved the Pack establishing a geo-cache treasure site somewhere on Sullivan’s Island.

**Ways and Means Committee**, Councilman Perkis. Revenue is coming in as projected, with areas such as building permits revenue increasing. The check scanners have been received and the first electronic deposit was made yesterday. As discussed at the Committee meeting, the proposed Investment Strategy will be used to maximize the return of the Town’s funds. As long we stay within the guidelines of the Investment Strategy, the monies can be moved without the need to go to Council for each transfer.

**Personnel Committee**, Councilman Howle for Councilman Kaynard. Monthly report rendered. Officers Archer and Poole have completed the new employee probation period. Chief Howard is recommending full time status and the appropriate salary adjustment. Motion was made by Councilman Howle, seconded by Councilwoman Watson, to approve the full time status and salary adjustment for Officers Archer and Poole, carried unanimously.

**Water and Sewer Committee**, Councilman Perkis. Monthly report rendered. Water and Sewer Manager Gress stated the next phase of the waterline replacement is not yet determined, as he is waiting on information from SCDOT. Mr. Gress reported that the Fire Department did an excellent job during the recent chlorine tank leak. Councilman Perkis commended Manager Gress for having a written policy in place

regarding this situation. Mr. Gress stated he is waiting on a report from the tank company to determine what caused the leak.

**Building and Construction Committee**, Councilman Howle. Monthly report rendered.

**Fire Committee**, Mayor Smith. Monthly report rendered. The Fire Department and Volunteer Fire and Rescue hosted the annual Fire Prevention Week display on October 7, 2009, and it was the biggest display in the area. The Fire Department, Fire and Rescue Squad, and Island resident Linda Rumph were commended by the Island Turtle Team for their help rescuing an injured juvenile pelican. The Department, Volunteers, and Police responded to a house fire on the corner of Station 28-1/2 and Brownell streets on October 16, 2009. Chief Stith reported that there was an oil spill in the harbor today that is washing up tar balls on the beach.

**Recreation Committee**, Councilwoman Watson. Louie's Kids will be holding the Monster Dash and Goblin Gallop Charity Race on October 24, 2009 to raise funds for the organization. Administrator Benke will review how to regulate use of Town property for soccer, lacrosse, and other leagues wishing to use the fields.

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

**Real Estate Committee**, Councilman O'Neil.

Accreted Land Management Plan: A Special Council meeting has been scheduled for November 10, 2009 to review the Consultant findings, review resident input data, and construct a direction statement to the Consultant for a final management plan.

Commercial District Consultants: The Mayor, Council Members O'Neil and Howle, along with the Administrator, met with Urban Edge Studio on October 12, 2009 regarding the Commercial District Master Plan. Urban Edge Studio has amended the document based on suggestions by the Town, and Council will submit edits to the Town Administrator to incorporate in the next plan version; a public meeting will be scheduled in the near future.

Potential Conservation Protection of Selected Town Properties: Councilman O'Neil and Administrator Benke will meet with Mt. Pleasant Open Space to discuss protection of the Station 19 Street landfill and Old Bridge through easement agreements.

Commercial District Uses Review: 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 members Kaynard and McGee recently met with property owners in the Commercial District.

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

**Streets and Maintenance Committee**, Councilwoman McGee. The Ben Sawyer Bridge opening report was presented earlier this evening. Councilwoman McGee encouraged Council to think about an April ceremony to celebrate the opening. She stated that a demonstration of beach path maintenance will be tried at Station 16 during

the next week. She noted that if Council changes the hours for dogs on the beach that some of the signs would need to be changed.

### **Ordinances**

**Mayor Smith duly ratified 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.**

**Mayor Smith duly ratified 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.**

**Motion was made by Councilman Perkis, seconded by Councilman O'Neil, to have Third Reading 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.**

**Motion was made by Councilwoman McGee, seconded by Councilman Howle, to amend the ordinance presented at second reading to add Section 3-7 (D) to read: With submittal of an American Kennel Club Canine Good Citizenship Certificate at the time of application, applicant shall receive a \$2.00 discount off the applicable annual fee for each certified dog, carried unanimously.**

**Motion was made by Councilman Perkis, seconded by Councilman Howle, to have Third Reading 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, as amended, carried unanimously.**

**Motion was made by Councilman Howle, seconded by Councilman O'Neil, to have Second Reading 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 Perkis, seconded by Councilwoman Watson, to suspend the rules to have Third Reading 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 O'Neil, seconded by Councilwoman McGee, to have Third Reading 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 Councilwoman Watson, to adjourn at 8:10 p.m., carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Ellen McQueeney