December 8, 2008

The Special Meeting of Sullivan’s Island 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
Pat O’Neil, Mayor Pro Tem
Buddy Howell, Councilman
Jerry Kaynard, Councilman
Mike Perkis, Councilman
Everett Presson, Councilman
Mary Jane Watson, Councilwoman

Mayor Smith called the meeting to order at 8:15 p.m., following a rescheduled Committee meeting. There were seven residents in the audience, along with media representatives.

Regarding the change of order for the December 16, 2008 agenda, Mayor Smith stated a motion can be made at the meeting to move an item forward, but it would need to be moved after the public comment section of the meeting.

After discussion, Council agreed to not approve a resolution to assume a claim deductible with the South Carolina Municipal Insurance Trust Workers’ Compensation Fund.

Motion was made by Councilman Perkis, seconded by Councilman Kaynard, to have Second Reading of Ordinance 2008-13, An Ordinance to Amend Section 10-20 to revise business license fees for all classifications.

Councilman Howle questioned if a Councilmember could vote on this ordinance if he has a Sullivan’s Island business license. Administrator Benke stated that the Ethics Commission views it as a large class exemption, i.e. as one resident of hundreds that have a business license vs. as one resident of only a few residents involved with an issue.

Motion was made by Councilman O’Neil, seconded by Councilwoman Watson, to amend the motion to have Second Reading of Ordinance 2008-13, An Ordinance to Amend Section 10-20 to revise business license fees for all classifications, so that it reads that Council give Second Reading to an Ordinance, as amended in the document dated December 8, 2008 supplied by the Ways and Means Committee presented tonight, which reflects the changes in the rate structure as a 10% increase, with the exception that the rate for restaurants is $3.00 per thousand instead of $3.50 per thousand, and the change of definition for gross income, carried by a vote of 6-1, with Councilman Howell casting the nay vote.

Motion was made by Councilman O’Neil, seconded by Councilwoman Watson, to approve the motion, as amended, for Second Reading of Ordinance

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2008-13, An Ordinance to Amend Section 10-20 to revise business license fees for all classifications, carried by a vote of 6-1, with Councilman Howle casting the nay vote.

Motion was made by Councilman Perkis, seconded by Councilwoman Watson, to suspend the rules to have Third Reading of Ordinance 2008-13, as amended and dated December 8, 2008, to Amend Section 10-20 to revise business license fees for all classifications, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman Perkis, seconded by Councilwoman Watson, to have Third Reading of Ordinance 2008-13, as amended and dated December 8, 2008, to Amend Section 10-20 to revise business license fees for all classifications. Councilman Presson inquired if the increase could be delayed until the summer; the group consensus was negative. Councilman Howell stated if it increases at all, the increase should be incremental. The motion carried by a vote of six, with Councilman Howle casting the nay vote.

Motion was made by Councilman Howle, seconded by Councilman Kaynard, to adjourn at 9:20 p.m., carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen McQueeney