

March 17, 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  
Pat O'Neil, Mayor Pro Tem  
Buddy Howle, Councilman  
Jerry Kaynard, Councilman  
Mike Perkis, Councilman  
Everett Presson, Councilman  
Mary Jane Watson, Councilwoman

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Smith, followed by the invocation by Councilman Howle. There were 13 members in the audience including four members of the media.

The floor was opened for comments from the citizens. Loren Ziff, 2114 Iron Avenue, inquired the status of the commercial district plan. Councilman O'Neil stated that Council has received the revised report on the traffic component, but it has not been reviewed. Administrator Benke is scheduled to meet with the SC Department of Transportation next week regarding the reverse angle parking. A public hearing will be scheduled for the consultants to present the plan to the public after Council has finished the review. Susan Middaugh, 2420 Raven, inquired if the Town needs S.C. DOT approval limiting non-residential parking to one hour; and Administrator Benke confirmed that question. Pat Votava, 2214 Jasper, presented an audio recording of a phone call she received regarding deliveries being made in the commercial district.

Mayor Smith presented former Zoning Administrator Kent Prause with a Resolution of Appreciation for his dedicated service to the Town from 1990 to 2009.

Larry Finney of Greene, Finney & Horton Certified Public Accountants, presented the financial audit for 2007-08. He stated the Town received an "unqualified" rating, which is the highest rating.

**Motion was made by Councilman Kaynard, seconded by Councilman Howle, to approve minutes from the February 17, 2009 meeting, carried unanimously.**

#### **Reports and Communications**

**General and New Correspondence** – none

**Attorney Report** – no report

**Board and Commission Reports** – Hal Currey, chairman of the Planning Commission, reported that the Commission has presented language concerning the Design Review Board to Council for review. Council will review this language at the next Committee meeting.

**Administrator's Report**, Administrator Benke. Lisa Darrow demonstrated the Town's new website. State Archaeologist Dr. Jonathan Leader will present the results of his site analysis on the Station 22 Street Cemetery using ground penetrating radar at the April Committee meeting. "The Sullivan's Islanders" will hold an educational and fun walk through the accreted land on Saturday, April 4, 2009, hosted by Richard Porcher PH.D. It is open to the public at no charge. The Planning Commission has presented Council with language regarding its public hearing on proposed amendments to Sections 21-109F(8) (a,b); 21-97(E); and 21-137(C) of the Zoning Ordinance. The Beach Erosion Committee has scheduled meetings on March 24 and April 28, 2009. Staff is reviewing the drawings for the extension of Raven Drive submitted by Windmill Engineering Solutions Inc. The National Park Service will dedicate the new exhibit "African Passages" at Fort Moultrie on Sunday, March 22, 2009 at 3:00 p.m. The exhibit examines the role of Sullivan's Island as a quarantine station during the slave trade when Charleston was a main point of entry for Africans into North America. Mr. Paul King has requested permission from the Town to hold, and staff assistance to help, with the 5<sup>th</sup> annual East Cooper Coastal Triathlon scheduled for Sunday, April 19, 2009. The DHEC-Office of Coastal Resource Management is holding a public hearing for the proposed revisions to the Beachfront Baseline and 40 Year Setback Line on April 6, 2009.

**Ways and Means Committee**, Councilman Perkis. Councilman Perkis reported on the February 2009 financial statement. In the general fund, expenses are close to budget. Business license revenue is expected to be at or above budget for the fiscal year. Greene, Finney and Horton presented the FY2008 financial audit tonight. The Town staff has estimated funds for various infrastructure projects for the American Recovery and Stimulus Reinvestment Act of 2009. However, only Year 4 and 5 of the 20 year waterline replacement project have been engineered and designed. This will be discussed at future meetings. Staff will begin the preparation of the FY2010 operating budget this month.

**Personnel Committee**, Councilman Kaynard. Monthly report rendered. Kent Prause has tendered his notice of resignation effective immediately to accept a promotion as Division Chief-Department of Planning and Development in Mt. Pleasant. Byron Bailey, M.D. submitted an application to serve on the Municipal Election Commission. **Motion was made by Councilman Howle, seconded by Councilwoman Watson, to appoint Dr. Bailey to the Election Commission, carried unanimously.** Councilman Kaynard announced that the Town staff has been issued official Town identification cards that comply with federal security requirements.

**Water and Sewer Committee**, Councilman Perkis. Monthly reports rendered.

The Water and Sewer department and Councilman Perkis have met with adjoining utilities to discuss possible synergies and options together, and have scheduled to meet again.

**Building and Construction Committee**, Councilman Howle. Monthly report rendered. Building Official Randy Robinson stated that Dawson Inc. general contractors submitted the lowest bid for the bandstand repairs. In addition, there is PARD grant money available for lighting and a tie-down system for the bandstand that Mr. Robinson would like to use. **Motion was made by Councilman Presson, seconded by Councilman Kaynard, to award the bid to Dawson Inc. general contractors to repair the bandstand, and \$5,000 PARD grant funds for lighting and tie-downs, carried unanimously.**

**Fire Committee**, Mayor Smith. Monthly report rendered. The Insurance Services Office will begin an audit of the Sullivan's Island Fire Department beginning April 21, 2009. Review and evaluation of key areas such as fire suppression, communications/dispatch, and water supply will determine the Town ISO rating.

**Recreation Committee**, Councilwoman Watson. The Park Foundation Dance is scheduled for April 24, 2009. Creative Spark will use the Fish Fry Shack, Island Club and Bandstand for forthcoming summer events.

**Real Estate Committee**, Councilman O'Neil. Council reviewed the changes to the Comprehensive Plan. A public hearing will be scheduled for public input on the Comprehensive Plan. Administrator Benke will be meeting with Urban Edge and S.C. Department of Transportation regarding the Community Commercial District plan. This plan will be discussed at the next Committee meeting. The Selection Committee for the Accreted Land Management plan will meet with Dr. Kana next week to review the draft document. A public hearing will be scheduled at a later date. The ad hoc committee appointed by the Mayor to study the noise issue in the Community Commercial District and surrounding residential district prepared specific recommendations for Town Council that will be discussed at the next Committee meeting.

**Police Committee**, Mayor Smith. Monthly report rendered. The Chief has completed a review of non-operational streetlights on the Island and reported that South Carolina Electric and Gas Company has made all repairs.

**Streets and Maintenance Committee**, Councilman Presson. Work has begun on the Ben Sawyer Bridge replacement. The S.C. Department of Transportation has created a 40 mph work zone along S.C. Highway 703. The Town Administrator will meet with Urban Edge Studio and S.C. Department of Transportation on March 24 to review the concept of reverse angle parking.

## **Ordinances**

**Motion was made by Councilman Kaynard, seconded by Councilman Presson, to have Second Reading of Ordinance No. 2009-01, An Ordinance Amending Section 17-3 Planning Commission Membership; Terms; Vacancies, to add an Eighth and Ninth Member. Motion failed by a 4-3 vote, with Councilmen Howle, Perkis, O'Neil, and Mayor Smith casting the nay votes.**

**Motion was made by Councilman Perkis, seconded by Councilman O'Neil, to go into Executive Session, carried unanimously.**

**Motion was made by Councilman Perkis, seconded by Councilman O'Neil, to come out of Executive Session, carried unanimously.** Mayor Smith stated that no votes or action was taken during Executive Session.

**Motion was made by Councilman O'Neil, seconded by Councilman Perkis, to adjourn at 8:32 p.m., carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen McQueeney