

May 21, 2019

A Special Meeting of Town Council was held on the above date at 6:00 p.m., all requirements of the Freedom of Information Act having been satisfied.

Present were: Chauncey Clark, Mayor Pro-Tem
Sarah Church, Councilmember
Mark Howard, Councilmember
Rita Langley, Councilmember
Tim Reese, Councilmember
Bachman Smith, IV, Councilmember

Mayor Pro-Tem Clark called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and stated the press and public had been notified in accordance with State Law. There were approximately ten (10) members of the audience present, with one (1) member of the media present. The purpose of the special meeting was to have a public hearing for the General Fund Budget for July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020 and also the Water and Sewer Budget for July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.

Motion was made by Councilmember Bachman Smith IV, seconded by Councilmember Tim Reese, to amend the agenda to allow Dominion Energy to speak regarding trimming and pruning around power lines on the island, carried unanimously.

Dominion Energy representatives Jennifer Hightower, Mark Branham and Clay Chaplin were present at the meeting. Mr. Branham and Mr. Chaplin are both certified arborists for the company. Dominion Energy will be on the island trimming and pruning trees/bushes around local power lines. They are required to keep limbs etc. out of the right-of-way. Mr. Branham assured residents they would not be trimming any more than necessary and said they are guided by ISA best practices/ANSI-300 standards. They will be trimming 10' on every side, 20' above the power lines and 10' below. Post cards and emails alerting residents of the work have been sent to everyone on Sullivan's Island. The cards include a toll-free number for those wishing to schedule a meeting with Dominion Energy before the work commences or for those who have questions or concerns during the upcoming project. That number is 1-800-251-7234. This information, along with a map, is also on the Town of Sullivan's Island website.

Public Hearing- General Fund Budget for July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020 and Water and Sewer Fund Budget for July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020:

Town Administrator Andy Benke explained that the State Statute requires that the Town presents a balanced budget by July 1st. Second Reading of the budget is scheduled for May 21, 2019

following the Public Hearing and Third Reading and Ratification is scheduled for June 18, 2019, which complies with the State Statute.

Comptroller Jason Blanton presented a high-level overview of the year ahead for the Town. (Attachments 1-3)

General Fund: Property tax revenue (operating) is estimated at \$2.5 million. The millage increase is 1.9%, from 35.0 to 35.6. Property tax revenue (debt service) is estimated at \$1.2 million. An increase in millage for debt service will not change. It is currently set at 15.9. Total revenue and transfers equal \$7,755,887.00. Total expenditures equal \$7,755,887.00. A few factors that are affecting expenses are: 2.0% CPI increase in salaries, increase in percentage for contributions to State requirement system: PORS 17.24% to 18.24%; SCRS 14.56% to 15.56%, replace radios for Police and Fire Departments, increase to cost of insurance for general insurance such as automobile, general liability, etc., health insurance and increase in contract price for garbage and trash collection.

Water and Sewer Fund: Total water fund revenue is \$1,101,085.00. The change in rate for average user is 0.7%. Total sewer fund revenue is \$1,227,380.00. The change in rate for average user is 3.8%. Total rate change for average user is 2.7%. Water fund budgeted expenditures equals \$1,101,085.00. Sewer fund budgeted expenditures equals \$1,226,380.00. Water and sewer budgeted expenditures are consistent with FY19.

Mayor Pro-Tem Clark opened the floor for public comments. There were no public comments.

Motion was made by Councilmember Tim Reese, seconded by Councilmember Mark Howard, to adjourn the meeting at 6:23 p.m., carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Courtney Liles