



Town of Sullivan's Island, South Carolina
Public Facilities Committee
Meeting Minutes
Friday, October 29, 2021

1. **Call to Order & Freedom of Information Act Requirements:** The Public Facilities Committee of Council met at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, October 29, 2021 at Town Hall, all requirements of the Freedom of Information Act having been satisfied. Present were Council Committee members Greg Hammond (Chair), Justin Novak, and Gary Visser. Staff members present were Andy Benke, Bridget Welch, Police Chief Chris Griffin, Police Captain Chris Wallace, and Joe Henderson. There was one (1) member of the public present and no members of the media.

Chair Hammond called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., and stated the press and public were duly notified pursuant to State Law.

2. **Approval of the August 30, 2021 Public Facilities Meeting Minutes**
Motion was made by Councilmember Visser, Seconded by Councilmember Novak, to approve the August 30, 2021 meeting minutes, passed unanimously.

3. **Discussion of Battery Gadsden green space and parking**

Chair Hammond presented a proposal that aims to reclaim the area around Battery Gadsden as a greenspace, rather than have it be used solely for beach parking. Councilmember Novak agrees with the proposal and suggested signage be added marking it as a historical area as well as community greenspace. There was some discussion with Police Chief Griffin about the current enforcement of the area as well as ways delineate parking vs no parking areas in the future.

Director of Battery Gadsden Mike Walsh was present and agreed to the proposal and mentioned that having removable bollards is important. They currently have a barrier in place that has helped with vandalism and parking issues.

Chair Hammond concluded with the suggestion of focusing solely on parking for the next Council meeting, as well as getting the opinions and assistance from the Town.

4. Discussion of Performance Bond for restoring road shoulders to original condition near large renovation and new construction sites

Mr. Henderson discussed the current performance bonds that are in place when dealing with tree removal. He stated there is currently no bonding in place for the public right of way and further research would be needed to find out if requiring this type of bond is legal.

Mr. Benke mentioned how the DOT currently manages these issues and that they do not monitor it at all for residential projects. One problem with making the repairs of the rights of way is the responsibility of general contractor is proving any damage is solely because of a construction project. It would be difficult to block off specific rights of ways for construction parking only.

Mr. Henderson stated the Town currently requires contractors to repair significantly damaged rights of way by showing them before pictures and withholding the Certificate of Occupancy.

Chair Hammond suggested finding out how much a block would cost and if it is feasible to add to the permit fee in the future.

5. Discussion of Historical Markers and Signage for Town Owned Properties

Councilmember Novak discussed various areas around the Town that could potentially benefit from having signage or historical markers installed. Mike Walsh added some background on the areas, which included the old parade grounds near Fort Moultrie, west of Station 17, the cannon pillars near Sullivan's Island Baptist Church, the historic cemetery at Myrtle and Station 22, and the four Batteries.

Councilmember Novak suggested recommending that Council determine the cost of these projects and come up with a Request for Proposal, with agreement from Chair Hammond. Mr. Benke provided some ballpark figures for previously installed signs and suggested looking into possible grants to help fund the new ones. The possibility of forming a Historical Preservation Committee or Commission or tasking the Battery Gadsden Cultural Center with providing the language for the signage.

The Committee will ask Council to first consider signage at The Mound, the pillars, and the old parade ground, with design and language determined by the Cultural Center.

6. Discussion of Signage near emergency beach access areas

Residents have requested missing signs be replaced and the Committee agreed to ask the Town to reinstall these.

7. Discussion regarding quotation from Ilderton Contracting to stabilize ground water pump stations on Jasper Boulevard

These deep-water pump stations on Jasper Boulevard are no longer in use but are on the historic list and in need of repair. Both can be repaired and secured for around \$33,000.

Councilmember Visser suggested de-listing the structures and tearing them down due to lack of current or future use for public water supply. Councilmember Novak mentioned that de-listing historical items could set a dangerous precedent for future projects. The committee decided to present the discussion to Council.

8. Adjourn

Motion was made by Councilmember Novak, Seconded by Councilmember Visser, to adjourn the meeting at 9:57 a.m., passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Bridget Welch